ICHIKA KINO
& MOCHIKO
MOCHIDA
TOKYOPOP
OSSAN IDOL
03

OSSAN IDOL 03

MANGA ♦ ICHIKA KINO
ORIGINAL STORY ♦
MOCHIKO MOCHIDA
CHARACTER DESIGN ♦
MIZUKI SAKAKIBARA

STORY

MIROKU, A 270 LB UNEMPLOYED SHUT-IN, WAS SPURRED ON BY THE POPULARITY OF HIS "LET'S TRY DANCING" VIDEO, JOINED A GYM, GOT IN SHAPE, AND TRANSFORMED INTO A MIDDLE-AGED HUNK IN NO TIME! ALONG WITH YOICHI AND SHIJU, HE CAUGHT THE EYE OF A FAMOUS PRODUCER, MR. LAVENDER, AND THE THREE MEN SUCCESSFULLY DEBUTED AS THE IDOL GROUP MIYOSHI! THE EVENTS THEY PARTICIPATED IN WERE ALL HUGE SUCCESSES TOO. BUT A YOUNG MAN NAMED ONO HAS APPEARED, SAYING THAT HE LOVES MIROKU'S OLDER SISTER, MIHACHI!

CHARACTERS

YOICHI (41)

YOICHI KISARAGI

THE CEO OF A SMALL ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY. HE AND MIROKU MET AT THE GYM. A GENTLEMAN WHO IS A BIT TOO WORRIED ABOUT HIS MUSCLE MASS.

SHIJU (40)

SHIJU ONOHARA

A FORMER DANCER AND HOST, NOW UNEMPLOYED AND LEADING A LIFE ON THE EDGE. HE WAS THE ONE WHO SUGGESTED THAT MIROKU TAKE PART IN THE DANCE COMPETITION.

MIROKU (36)

MIROKU OSAKI

KAMO LAVENDER

PRODUCER EXTRAORDINAIRE OF NATIONALLY TREASURED IDOL GROUPS SUCH AS UGUISUDANI SEVEN.

NINA OSAKI

MIROKU'S LITTLE SISTER AND AN ASSISTANT HAIRSTYLIST. SHE HAS MUSICAL TALENT AND HAS EVEN GIVEN SHIJU VOICE LESSONS.

MIHACHI OSAKI

MIROKU'S OLDER SISTER WHO WAS YOICHI'S BIGGEST FAN IN HIS IDOL DAYS AND LOVES HIM EVEN NOW.

KOUSHUU ONO

A YOUNG AND POPULAR VOICE ACTOR WHO HAPPENS TO BE MIYOSHI'S FAN. APPARENTLY HE FELL FOR MIHACHI AT FIRST SIGHT!

FUMI

FUMI KISARAGI

YOICHI'S BUBBLY NIECE WHO WORKS AT HIS OFFICE. SHE ALWAYS PUTS HER ALL INTO HER WORK.

OSSAN IDOL

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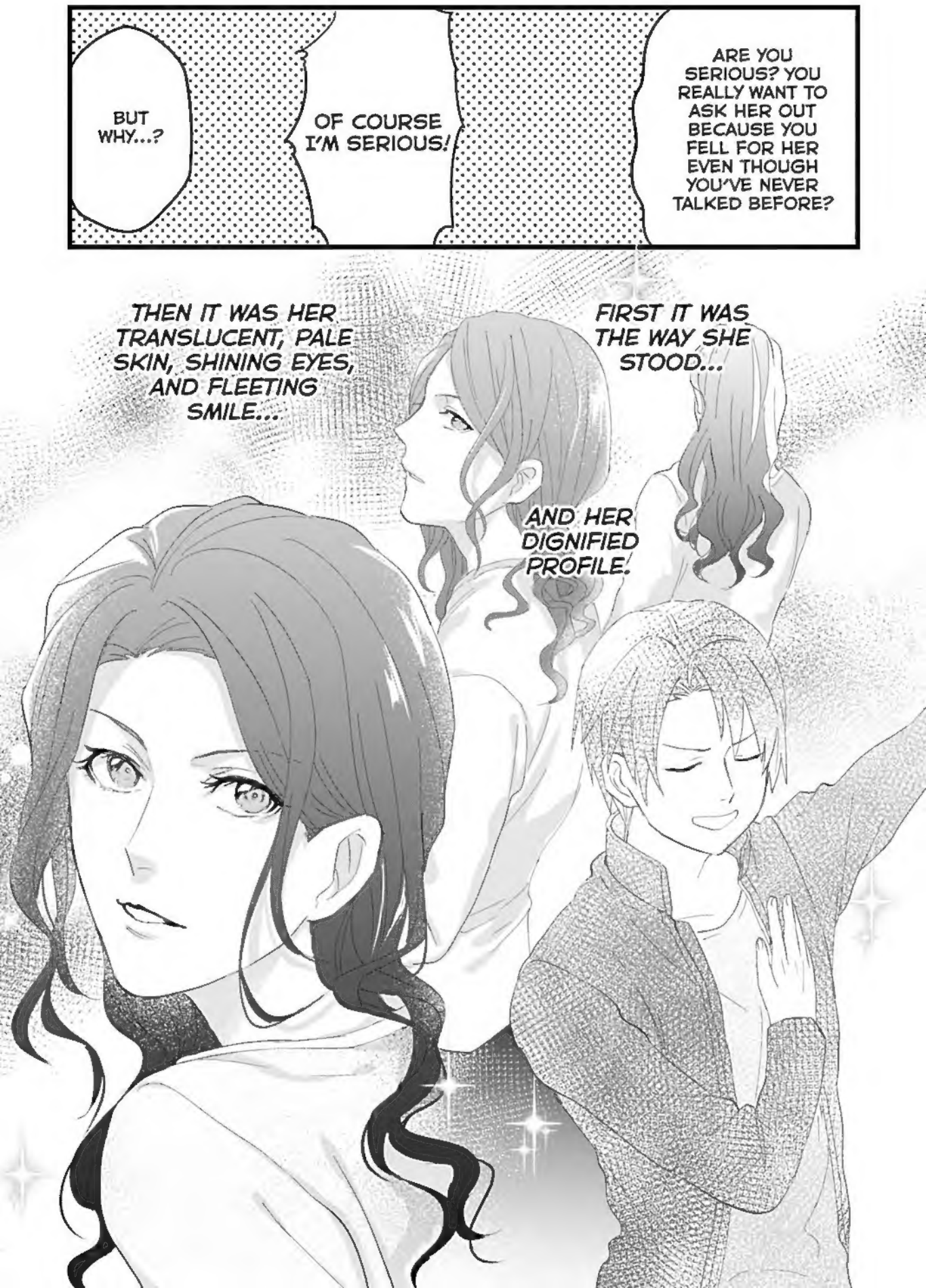
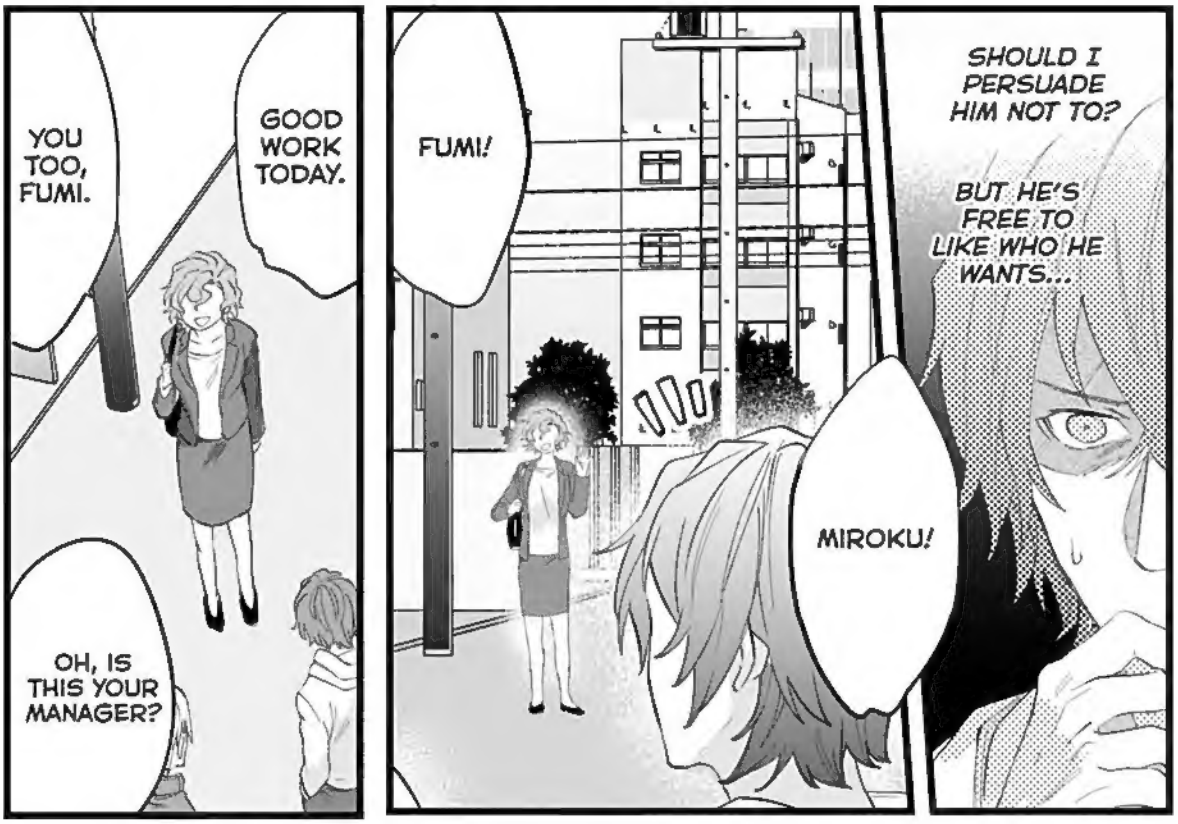
Chapter 12

UM...
EVEN IF SUDDENLY YOU SAY THAT YOU WANT TO ASK HER OUT...
IS THAT REALLY SOMETHING YOU SHOULD SAY TO ME, HER LITTLE BROTHER?!
ONO, HOW OLD ARE YOU?
I'M TWENTY-FIVE!
SO YOUNG...
MY SISTER IS THIRTY-EIGHT.
ALSO, THERE'S SOMEONE SHE–
REALLY? THAT MAKES HER EVEN MORE MY TYPE!
I LOVE OLDER WOMEN!
HE'S NOT LISTENING AT ALL!

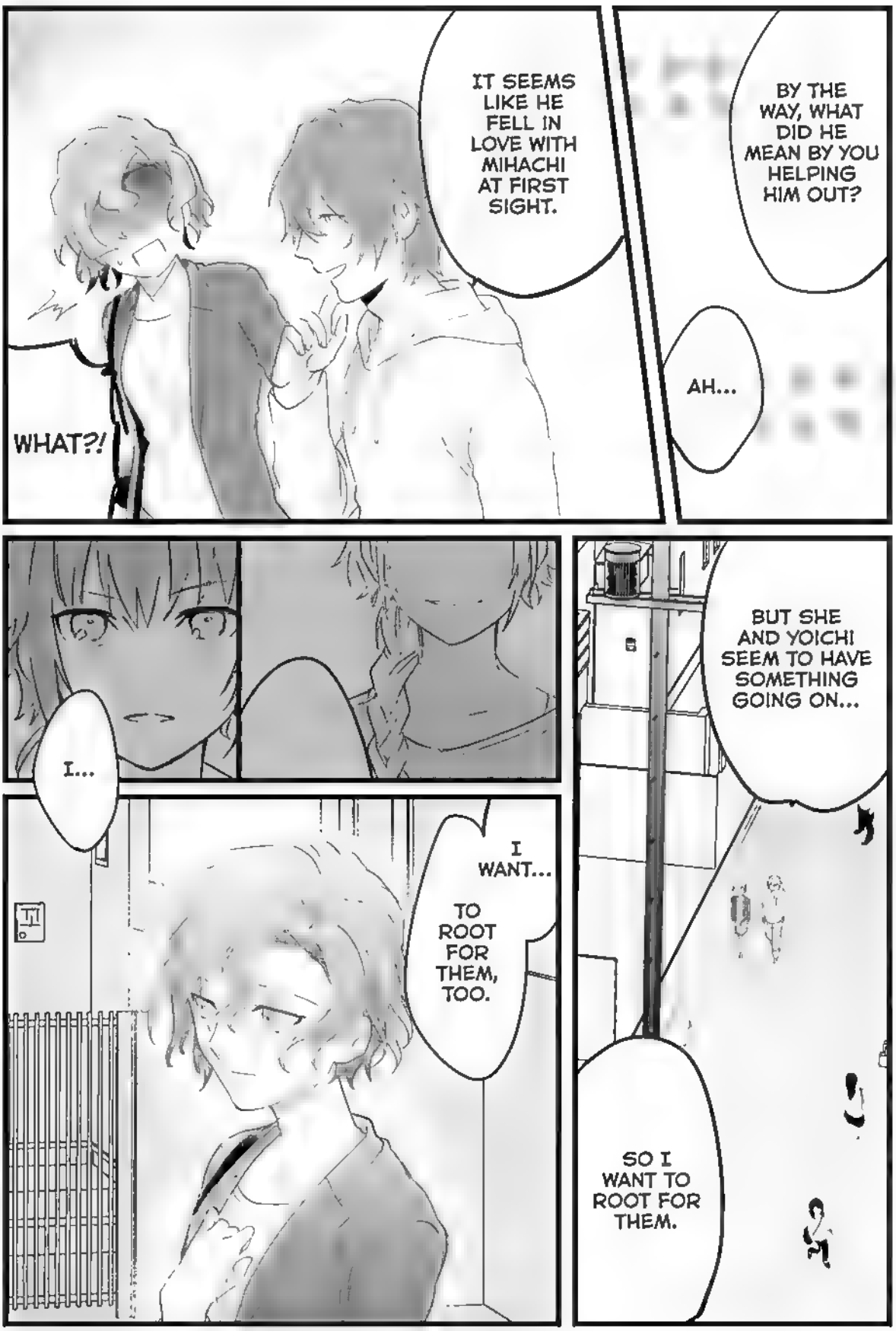

ARE YOU SERIOUS? YOU REALLY WANT TO ASK HER OUT BECAUSE YOU FELL FOR HER EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE NEVER TALKED BEFORE?
OF COURSE I'M SERIOUS!
BUT WHY...?
FIRST IT WAS THE WAY SHE STOOD...
AND HER DIGNIFIED PROFILE.
THEN IT WAS HER TRANSLUCENT, PALE SKIN, SHINING EYES, AND FLEETING SMILE...

IT WAS DEFINITELY LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.
PERHAPS THE GODDESS OF FATE IS FINALLY SMILING DOWN ON ME!
SO BASICALLY, YOU FELL FOR HER LOOKS?
YES!
SHINE
HE ADMITTED IT!
BUT I HAVE TO SAY IT!
CLENCH
ONO!
THIS IS REALLY HARD TO SAY.
CHEERY

ACTUALLY, MY SISTER HAS SOMEONE...
GULP
SHE'S (PLANNING ON) DATING!
NO WAY.
HE DIDN'T TAKE ANY DAMAGE?!
I'LL DO MY BEST TO WIN HER OVER!
THAT'S FINE!
THUMBS UP


GOOD WORK TODAY.
YOU TOO, FUMI.
OH, IS THIS YOUR MANAGER?
FUMI!
MIROKU!
SHOULD I PERSUADE HIM NOT TO?
BUT HE'S FREE TO LIKE WHO HE WANTS...
YES! I'M MIYOSHI'S MANAGER.
MY NAME IS FUMI KISARAGI.
I KNEW IT!
I'M KOUSHUU ONO.
I'M A HUGE FAN OF MIYOSHI!
PLEASE CONTINUE TO GIVE IT YOUR ALL!
I-I WILL.

I HAVE WORK AFTER THIS.
SORRY, BUT I'D BETTER GET GOING.
OH!
CRAP!
SEE YOU, MIROKU!
PLEASE HELP ME OUT LATER!
HE...
HE SWEPT IN AND OUT LIKE A STORM...
HE'S VERY... ENERGETIC... ISN'T HE?


IT SEEMS LIKE HE FELL IN LOVE WITH MIHACHI AT FIRST SIGHT.
WHAT?!
BY THE WAY, WHAT DID HE MEAN BY YOU HELPING HIM OUT?
AH...
I...
I WANT... TO ROOT FOR THEM, TOO.
BUT SHE AND YOICHI SEEM TO HAVE SOMETHING GOING ON...
SO I WANT TO ROOT FOR THEM.

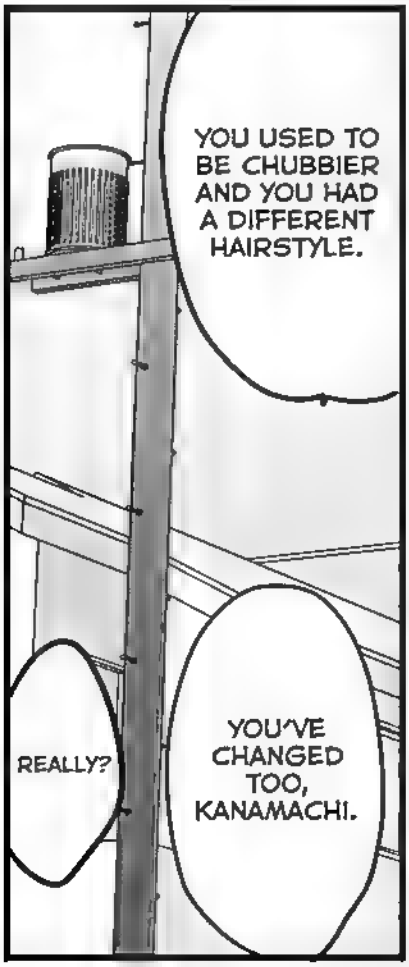
THEN LET'S CHEER THEM ON FROM THE SHADOWS!
SMILE
URK...
HUH?
I THINK I KNOW WHY ONO FELL FOR MIHACHI AT FIRST SIGHT...
THE OSAKI FAMILY TRULY IS TERRIFYING...
??

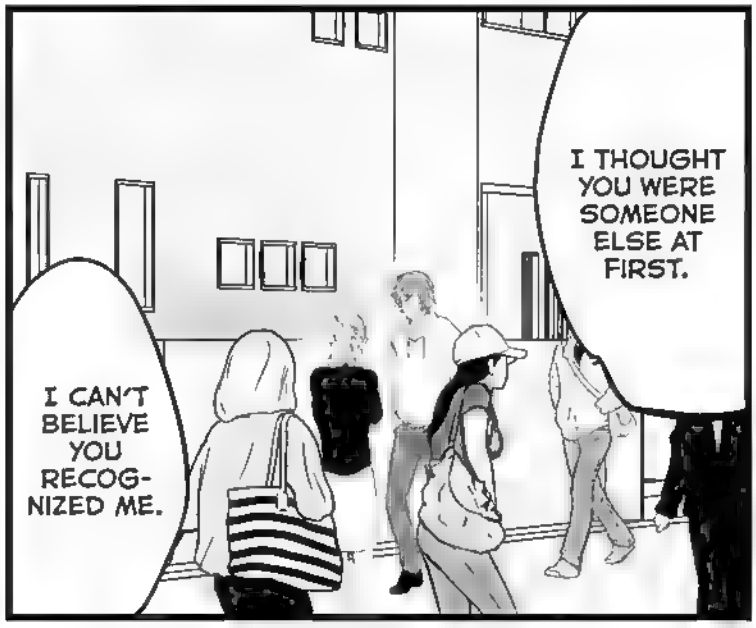
YES!
THANK YOU AGAIN FOR EVERY-THING TODAY.
OKAY.
SEE YOU LATER THEN.
FUMI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING AFTER THIS?
SINCE YOU'VE FINISHED ALL YOUR INTERVIEWS FOR TODAY, I THINK I'LL HEAD HOME.
YOU TOO, FUMI.
I WONDER WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE IN LOVE WITH AN IDOL, THOUGH.
THEY REALLY DO MAKE A GOOD COUPLE, NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT.
MIROKU WANTS UNCLE YOICHI AND MIHACHI TO GET TOGETHER.

HUH?
OSAKI?

KANAMACHI, IS THAT YOU?!
WHO...
YEAH! I'M GLAD I RECOGNIZED YOU.
IT'S BEEN SO LONG.

WHO IS SHE?!


YOU USED TO BE CHUBBIER AND YOU HAD A DIFFERENT HAIRSTYLE.
YOU'VE CHANGED TOO, KANAMACHI.
REALLY?


I THOUGHT YOU WERE SOMEONE ELSE AT FIRST.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU RECOG-NIZED ME.

DID THEY GO TO SCHOOL TOGETHER?
OH?

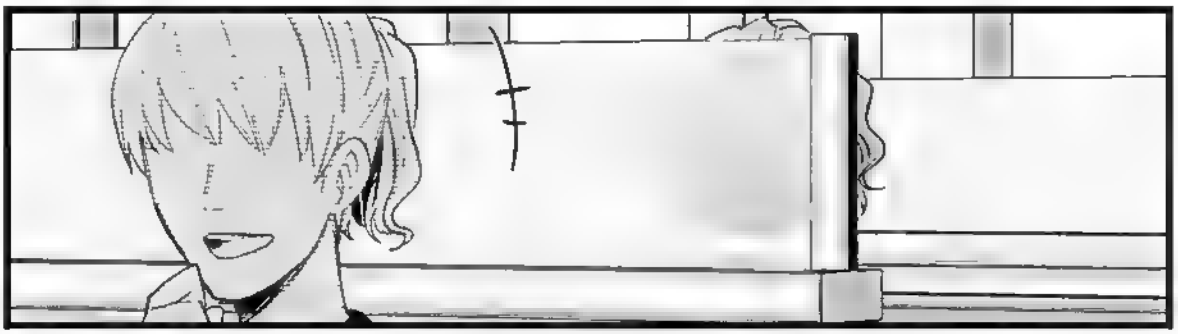
SAIDE サイデ
THIS STYLE LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
IT'S CUTE.
WAIT, IS SHE HIS EX?!
CRACKLE パリッ
ヤバ!
OSAKI, THAT PART OF YOU HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL.
WHAT KIND OF WORK ARE YOU DOING NOW?
I'M AN IDOL.

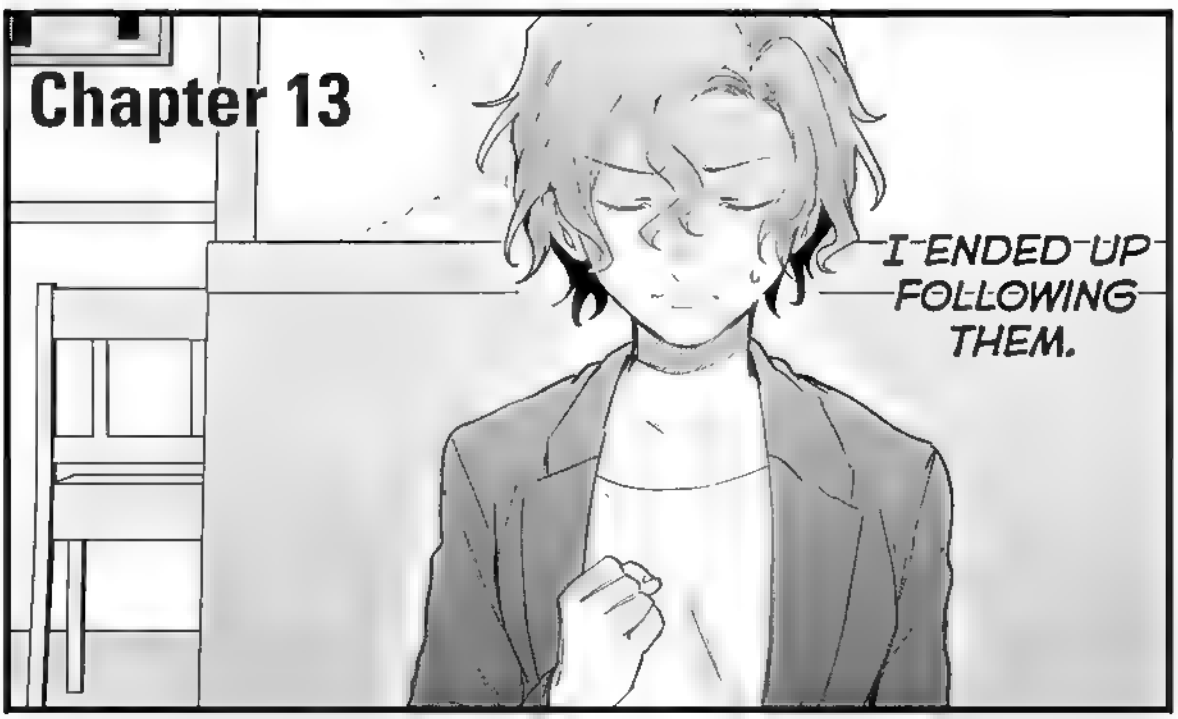
?!
WAIT, AN IDOL?!
AN IDOL, HUH?
YEAH. THAT REACTION IS UNDER-STANDABLE...
AS FAR AS I KNOW, THERE'S ONLY ONE KIND OF IDOL.
AN IDOL AS IN... A REAL, ACTUAL IDOL?!
BUT I ONLY RECENTLY DEBUTED.

AH...
THAT'S WHAT I HEARD, TOO.
HE'S AN IDOL?
WHISPER
ヒソ
ヒソ
WHISPER
WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT YOU...
!
IT'S FINE.
ナヌ
MUMBLE
SORRY, OSAKI.
SURE!
I'M OFF FOR THE REST OF THE DAY.
SINCE WE HAVE THE CHANCE, WANT TO GET A BITE TO EAT?
ONLY IF YOU HAVE TIME, OF COURSE.

NAH...
THAT CERTAINLY SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING AN IDOL WOULD SAY.
MAMA, THAT WOMAN IS-
SHH, DON'T LOOK.
MIROKU?!

WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER SINCE GRADU-ATION.
IT'S BEEN, WHAT, EIGHTEEN YEARS?
SERIOUSLY, WHAT A COINCIDENCE.
YEAH.

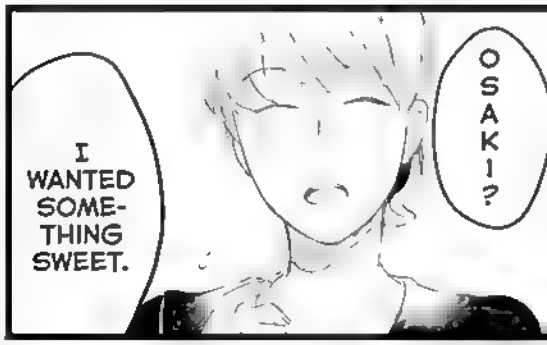



Chapter 13
I ENDED UP FOLLOWING THEM.

SO CLOSE.
LEAN
MENU
?
OKAY.
Y-YEAH! I'LL HAVE A LATTE.
HAVE YOU DECIDED?
?
EXCUSE ME. WE'D LIKE TO ORDER.
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

WILL YOU SHARE WITH ME?

ONE LATTE, ONE COFFEE, A STRAW-BERRY CREPE...
AND A SMALL PLATE, PLEASE.
!


OSAKI?
I WANTED SOME-THING SWEET.

ARE YOU MIROKU FROM MIYOSHI?
HUH?

OH... WELL, IF YOU INSIST.
GREAT!
UM...

I'M, UM...
A FAN OF MIYOSHI...
COULD YOU PLEASE SHAKE MY HAND?
REACH
WITH PLEASURE! I'M SO HAPPY TO HEAR YOU'RE A FAN.
STAND
SQUEEZE
SUDDEN FAN SERVICE?!
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORT-ING US!
?!
N-N-NO, I SHOULD BE THE ONE THANKING YOU!
...
I'LL BRING YOUR FOOD RIGHT AWAY, MY PRINCE!
DASH

LIKE MY SHAPE...
Before
I WAS TRYING MY BEST TO CHANGE THOUGH...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
OH, YOU HAVE. THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.
OSAKI, YOU REALLY HAVEN'T CHANGED ONE BIT.
HUH?!
DOUBT
NOT A DIFFERENT OSAKI?
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT ME?
DOUBT
DEFINITELY YOU.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN POPULAR.
I DON'T THINK YOU NOTICED, THOUGH.
REALLY?

THAT'S...
YOU ALWAYS CARRIED HEAVY THINGS FOR PEOPLE.
YOU WERE A GENTLEMAN.
AND YOU GOT THINGS DOWN FROM HIGH PLACES.
WHAT?!
I WAS ONE OF THEM.
YOU WERE MY FIRST LOVE.
R-REALLY?
THAT PART OF YOU REALLY MADE GIRLS FALL FOR YOU.

AFTER OUR GRADUATION CEREMONY?
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED...
I WAS?!
I HAD NO IDEA!
YOU WERE!
I WONDER IF OSAKI WILL COME.
RATTLE

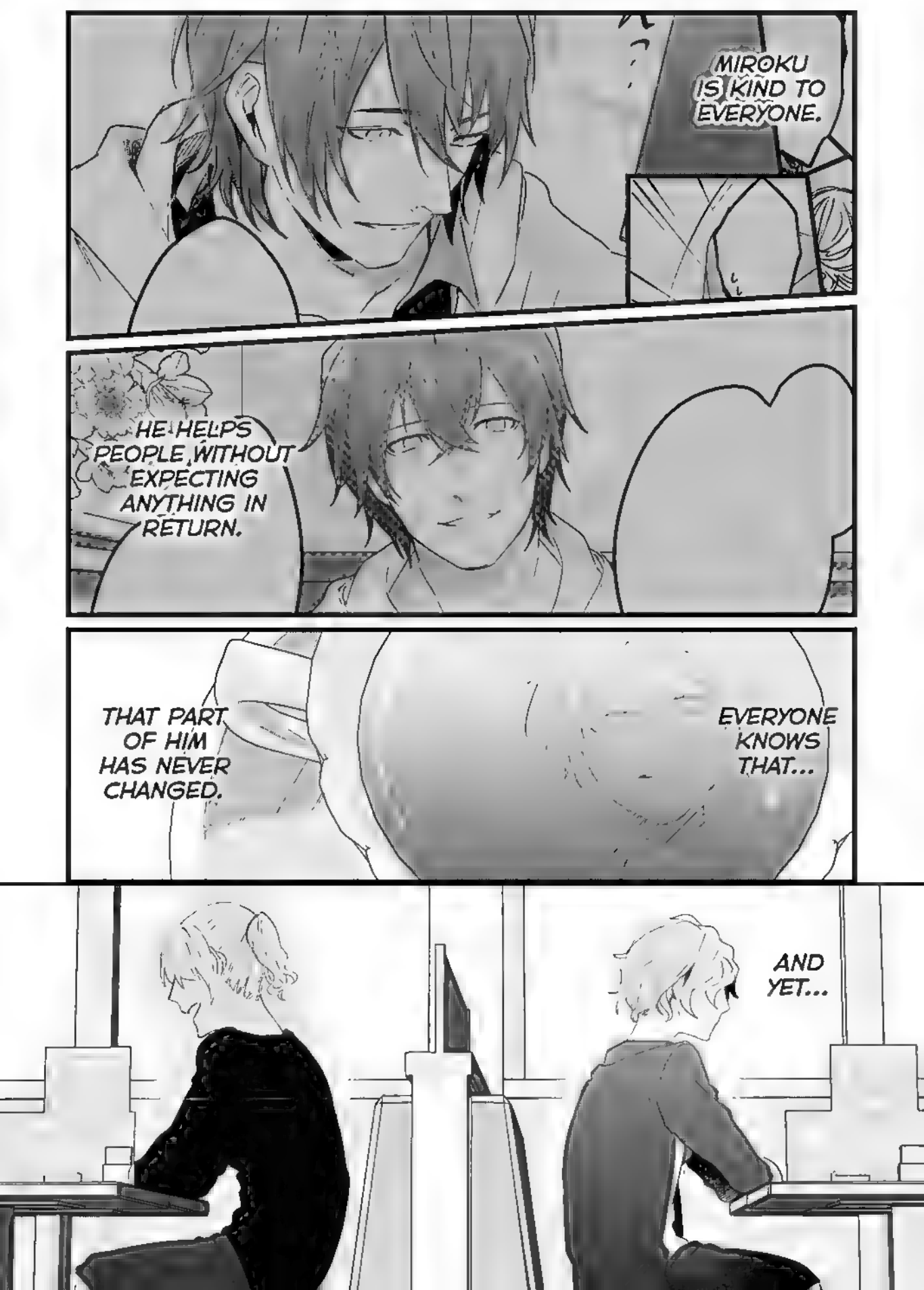
OSAKI!
SORRY I'M LATE, KANAMACHI.
YOU... CAME...
RAGGED
FREEZE
HEY...
BAM
HUH?
UM... WHERE ARE YOUR JACKET BUTTONS?

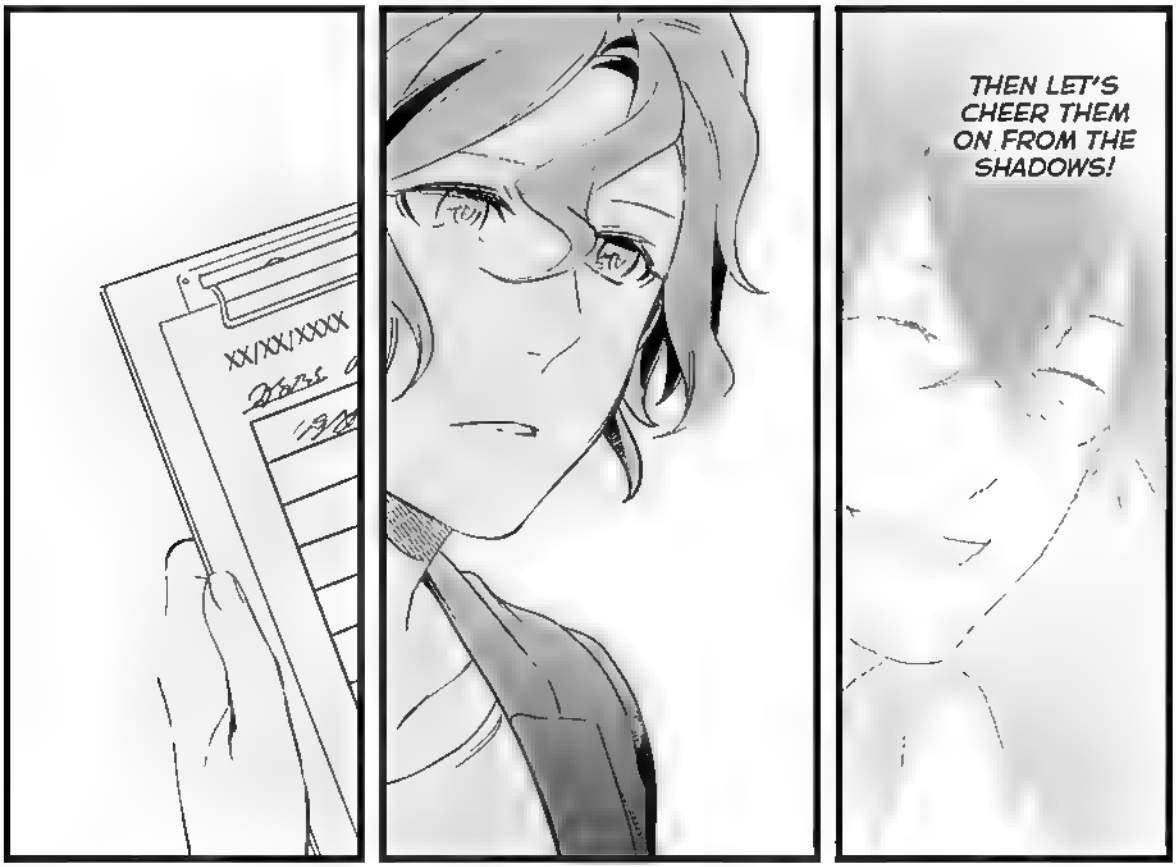
A BUTTON?!
CAN I HAVE ONE TOO?
SENPAI, CAN I HAVE A BUTTON?
ON MY WAY HERE...
SO MANY GIRLS TRIED TO TAKE THEM...
SLUMP
BEFORE I KNEW IT, I LOOKED LIKE THIS.
KANAMACHI, ARE YOU GOING TO DO SOMETHING TO ME, TOO?
WAIT A SECOND, IS THAT WHY YOU...?
GASP
はっ

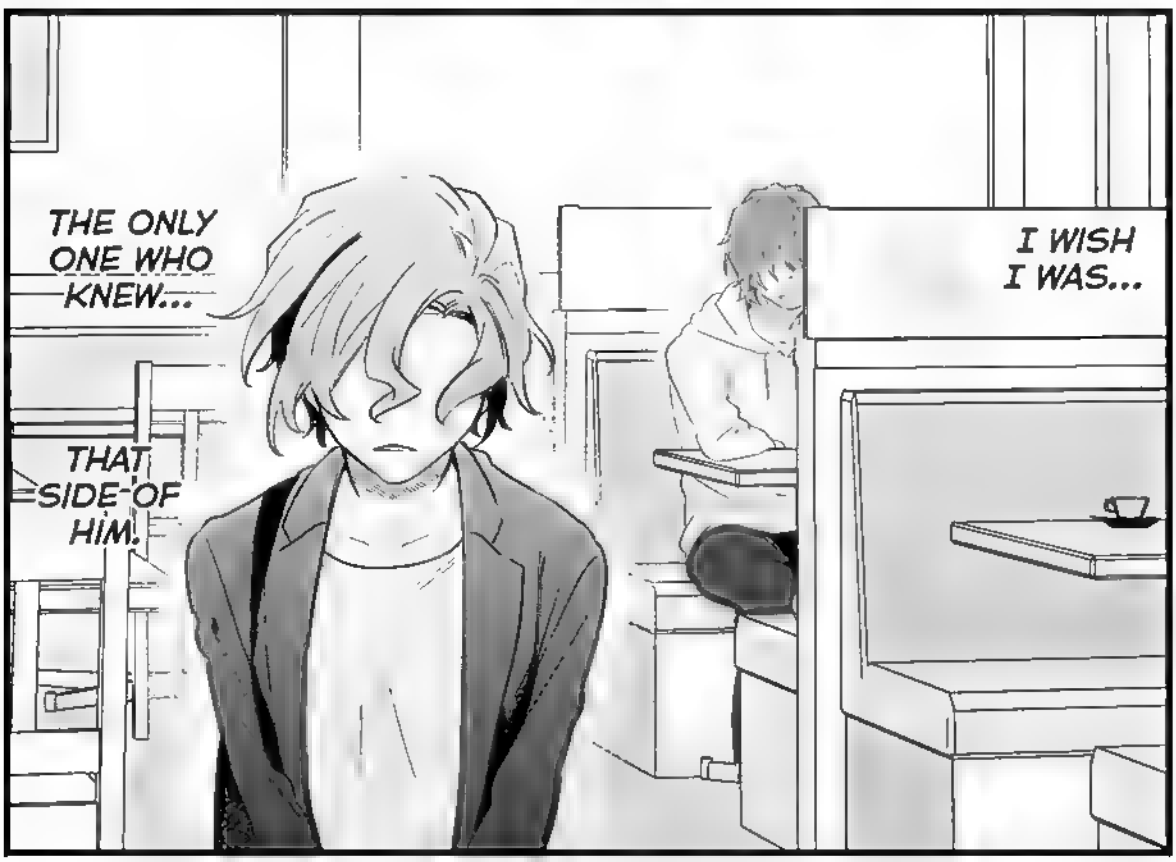
O-
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
OSAKI...
I HATE YOU!
SHOCK
YEAH... SORRY ABOUT THAT.
...AND THAT WAS THAT, IF I REMEMBER RIGHT.

YOU MAY LOOK DIFFERENT, BUT YOU CAN STILL DRAW PEOPLE TO YOU THE WAY YOU DID IN HIGH SCHOOL.
THANKS.
I'M HAPPY TO HEAR THAT.
I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT BACK THEN.
I'M SORRY, TOO. I ACTED LIKE A SPOILED BRAT.
BUT I'M GLAD...
YOU DIDN'T ACTUALLY HATE ME BACK THEN...
SINCE I LIKED YOU.
I...
OF COURSE.
ARE YOU SURE?
OH, OSAKI!
I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW THE PUNISHMENT FOR NOT NOTICING THAT YOU WERE MY FIRST LOVE IS SEVERE!
THEN I'LL PAY TODAY.

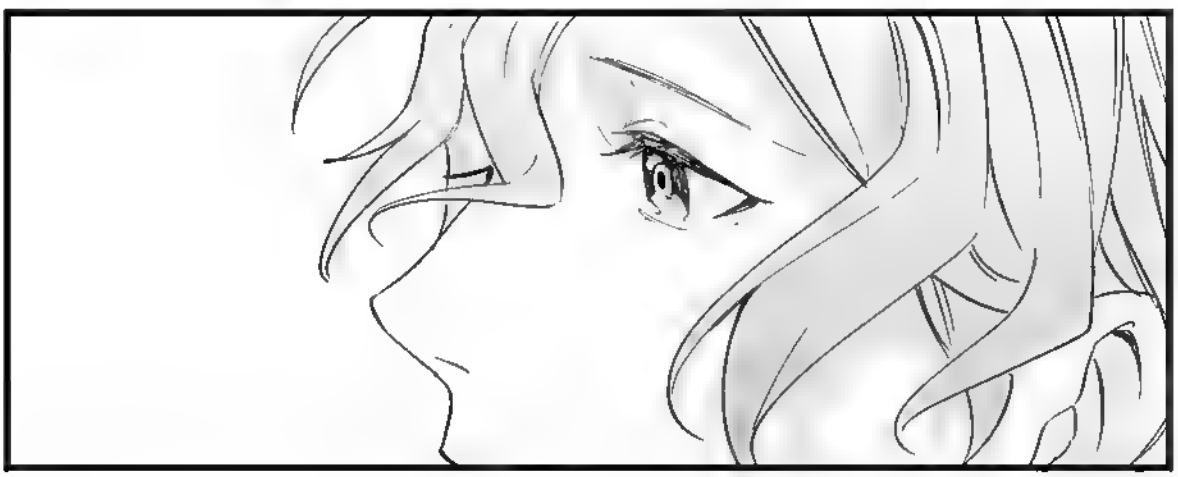
BA-DUMP
ドキ
BA-DUMP
ドキ
I LISTENED IN ON THEIR CONVER-SATION!
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL, OSAKI.
BUT...
I GUESS THAT'S RIGHT.


MIROKU IS KIND TO EVERYONE.
HE HELPS PEOPLE WITHOUT EXPECTING ANYTHING IN RETURN.
THAT PART OF HIM HAS NEVER CHANGED.
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT...
AND YET...


XX/XX/XXXX
THEN LET'S CHEER THEM ON FROM THE SHADOWS!


THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW...
THAT SIDE OF HIM.
I WISH I WAS...

EVEN THOUGH I'M ONLY HIS MANAGER...

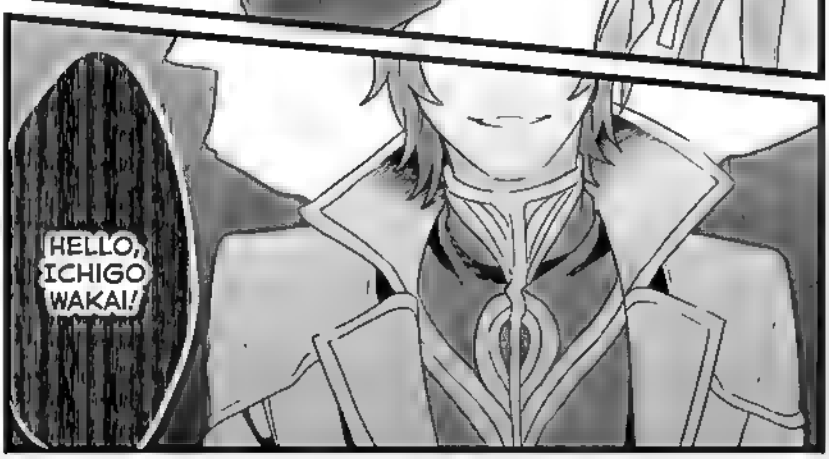


I WISH I COULD MEET...
SQUEEZE
ギュッ
MY HERO AGAIN.

WHO IS IT?!

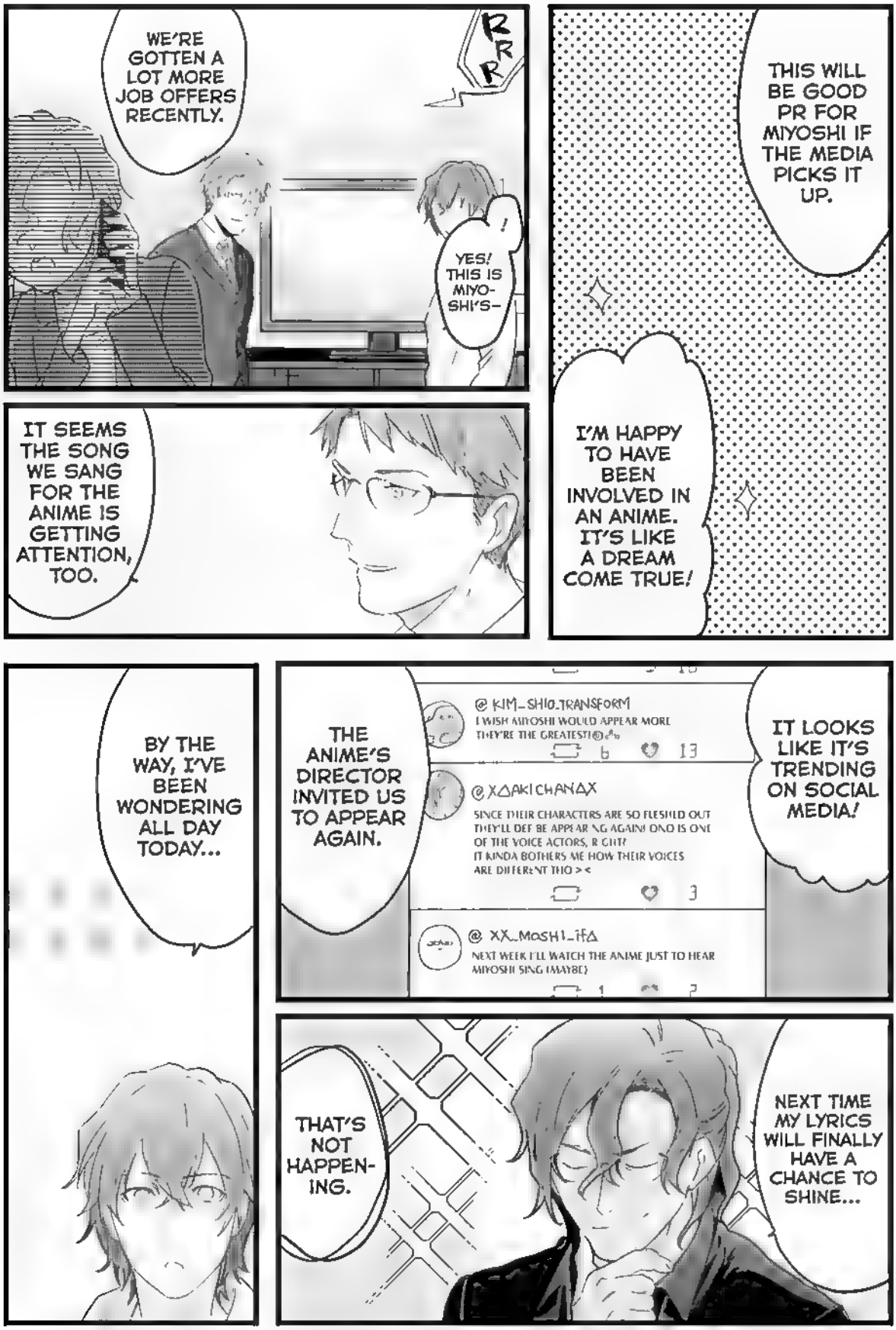
FWUMP

LONG TIME NO SEE.
THIS VOICE ...!


HELLO, ICHIGO WAKAI!

WE'VE COME TO TAKE YOUR LIVES.
PRINCE MIROKU...

WHOA...!
IT SEEMS THE PUBLIC VIEWING A WHILE BACK WAS A BIG HIT.
HUDDLE ぎゅう
THEY REALLY WERE MODELED AFTER US.
WE'D BETTER RECORD THIS!
ぎゅう HUDDLE


WE'RE GOTTEN A LOT MORE JOB OFFERS RECENTLY.
RRR
YES! THIS IS MIYO-SHI'S-
THIS WILL BE GOOD PR FOR MIYOSHI IF THE MEDIA PICKS IT UP.
I'M HAPPY TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN AN ANIME. IT'S LIKE A DREAM COME TRUE!
IT SEEMS THE SONG WE SANG FOR THE ANIME IS GETTING ATTENTION, TOO.
BY THE WAY, I'VE BEEN WONDERING ALL DAY TODAY...
THE ANIME'S DIRECTOR INVITED US TO APPEAR AGAIN.
@ KIM_SHIO_TRANSFORM
I WISH MIYOSHI WOULD APPEAR MORE THEY'RE THE GREATEST!
@XΔAKICHANΔX
SINCE THEIR CHARACTERS ARE SO FLESHED OUT THEY'LL DEF BE APPEARING AGAIN! ONO IS ONE OF THE VOICE ACTORS, R GHT?
IT KINDA BOTHERS ME HOW THEIR VOICES ARE DIFFERENT THO >.<
@ XX_MOSHI_ifΔ
NEXT WEEK I'LL WATCH THE ANIME JUST TO HEAR MIYOSHI SING (MAYBE)
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S TRENDING ON SOCIAL MEDIA!
THAT'S NOT HAPPEN-ING.
NEXT TIME MY LYRICS WILL FINALLY HAVE A CHANCE TO SHINE...

BUT WHY ARE YOU BOTH WEARING GLASSES?
JOLT
AH, UM... THAT'S...
DON'T TELL ME IT'S BECAUSE OF YOUR AGE...
GASP
NO!

BAM
IT'S BECAUSE SMART-LOOKING GUYS ARE MORE POPULAR!
THAT'S SUCH A DIRTY REASON!
MIROKU, CAN'T YOU THINK... OF ONE REASON WHY GUYS WHO NORMALLY DON'T WEAR GLASSES WOULD SUDDENLY WEAR THEM?
HUH?
SHIJU, EVEN WITH GLASSES ON, YOU STILL JUST LOOK LIKE A HOST.
WHY ARE YOU ONLY CRITICIZING ME?!
RIGHT, YOICHI?
THAT'S AN INSULT TO PEOPLE WHO'RE ACTUALLY SMART!
URK...
WEARING THEM BECAUSE HE HEARD THAT GUYS WHO WEAR GLASSES ARE IN HIGH DEMAND.

SHIJU, THAT'S A WEIRD REASON TO POUT...
SULK
YOU DON'T NEED GLASSES, HUH?
MIROKU, YOU'RE POPULAR WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING.

SEE?
BAM
THEY HAVE SUPER THICK LENSES!

I HAVE GLASSES, TOO!
RUSTLE
OH?

HE LOOKS SO SUSPI-CIOUS!
NO ONE KNOWS IT'S ME IF I WEAR THESE, A HAT, AND A MASK!
YEP!
MIROKU, IS THAT PART OF YOUR COSTUME TO HIDE YOUR IDENTITY?

疑いの目
DOUBTFUL GAZE
UH...
WHAT'S WITH THE SUDDEN COMPLIMENT?
IT ONLY TOOK A SECOND FOR YOU TO COME BACK TO YOUR SENSES.
OSSAN, IT'S ALMOST ANNOYING HOW GOOD THEY LOOK ON YOU.
HUH?
AH...
THAT REMINDS ME.
I MET WITH ONO THE OTHER DAY.
I THINK THEY SUIT YOU, TOO!
WHY DO I ALWAYS GET THE SHORT END OF THE STICK?!
I'LL REMEMBER THIS, OSSAN!
THANKS.

I HEARD HE'S ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR VOICE ACTORS NOWADAYS.
YEP!
HE WAS DISGUISING HIMSELF WITH GLASSES, TOO. THESE REMINDED ME OF HIM.
ONO?
THE GUY WHO VOICES MY CHARACTER IN THE ANIME.
THAT WAS NICE OF HIM.
APPARENTLY HE'S A FAN OF OUR GROUP AND CAME TO OUR DEBUT LIVE SHOW THE OTHER DAY.
WHEN HE WAS CHEERING FOR US...
BUT, UM...

...HE FELL IN LOVE WITH MIHACHI AT FIRST SIGHT...
SHIVER
YES, SIR.
TELL ME ALL THE DETAILS, WILL YOU?
UM...
LIKE I SAID...
OH?

MIHACHI AND NINA BOTH SHOWED UP AFTER THE SHOW, RIGHT?
HERE.
APPARENTLY THAT'S WHEN HE SAW HER.

I TOLD HIM THAT I DIDN'T THINK SHE'D BE INTER-ESTED...
BUT HE DIDN'T LISTEN AND SAID HE'D WIN HER OVER.
THAT'S FINE, ISN'T IT?
HUH?

HE TOLD ME HE WANTS TO ASK HER OUT.
OH...?
THE TEMPERA-TURE IN HERE JUST KEEPS DROPPING!

MIHACHI IS FREE TO CHOOSE WHOMEVER SHE WANTS.

RIGHT?
1313
TREMBLE
Y-
YES, THAT'S TRUE.
THOSE EYES SEEM TO SAY THAT HE'LL MAKE HER CHOOSE HIM, NO MATTER WHAT!
EVERYONE, THIS IS TERRIBLE!

CAN YOU ALL LEAVE RIGHT NOW?
THANK YOU!
HUH?!
I KNOW WE WERE PLANNING ON HAVING A MEETING HERE IN A LITTLE BIT, BUT CAN WE PUSH IT BACK?
SURE. WE DON'T MIND.
I JUST GOT A CALL WITH INFORMATION ABOUT A TV SHOW.
THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO FEATURE AN OVERSEAS ARTIST WHO SUDDENLY COULDN'T MAKE IT.
THEY WANT YOU TO APPEAR INSTEAD!

UGH...
HEY, YOU TELL HIM.
IRK
IRK
IRK
MC
KOICHI MUTOU
UM, MR. MUTOU, ABOUT THE ARTIST... I'M REALLY SORRY, BUT THEY CANCELED...
HAH?!
THEY MADE US WAIT THIS LONG AND ENDED UP CANCEL-ING?!
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT TODAY'S FILMING, HUH? YOU WANT ME TO HOST ALL BY MYSELF?!
RUMBLE
N-NO! WE'VE FOUND A REPLACE-MENT!
FLAP

WHO'S THIS?
THEY'RE A NEW GROUP THAT ONLY RECENTLY DEBUTED.
MIYOSHI?
UNIT NAME: MIYOSH
WHAT KIND OF GROUP? COMEDI-ANS?
NO, AN IDOL GROUP.
HUH.
HE FORMED AN IDOL UNIT.
THE MEMBERS' PROFILES ARE IN THAT FILE.
DO YOU REMEMBER THE WHITE PRINCE WHOSE "LET'S TRY DANCING" VIDEO WENT VIRAL A WHILE BACK?
AHHH, VAGUELY.

参医も益
OH...?
MR. MUTOU?
ISN'T THIS...
YOICHI FROM ALPHA?

Chapter 14
SO THIS IS A TV STATION!

MIROKU, STOP STARING AT EVERY-THING.
YEAH, MIROKU.
WOW!
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN ONE BEFORE!
WE'RE HERE FOR WORK.
THE SAME GOES FOR YOU.
FWUMP
!
AH...!

I-I'M SORRY! I WAS IN A HURRY!
IT'S OKAY. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YES! I'M SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.
ARE YOU LOST?
ヒル
FLINCH
きょろ
GLANCE
きょろ
GLANCE

I JUST CAN'T FIND MEETING ROOM #2.
THEN YOU'RE LOST.
N-NO.
REALLY? SORRY, THEN. YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE IN TROUBLE.
OH, I FORGOT TO INTRODUCE MYSELF. I'M MOMOKA.
WE HAVE BUSINESS IN THAT AREA, SO WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO TOGETHER?
IS THAT ALL RIGHT?

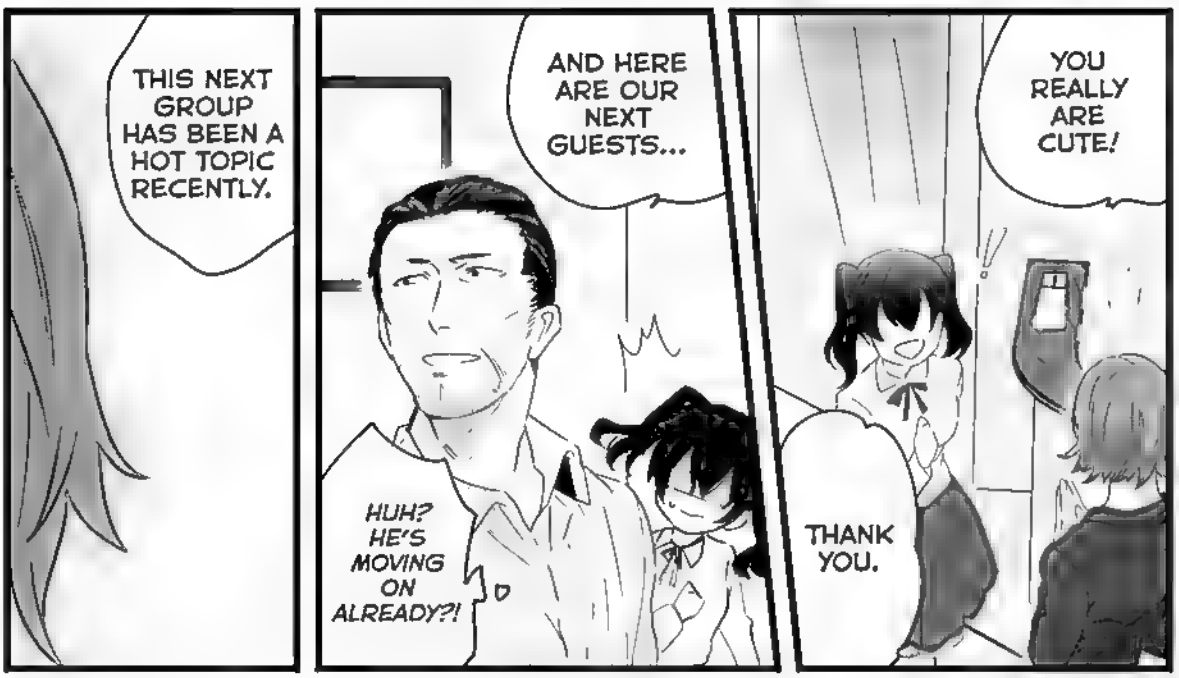
I'M AN IDOL, BUT TODAY MY MANAGER IS OUT SICK WITH A COLD. I REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR HELP!
IT'S OUR PLEASURE TO BE OF ASSISTANCE.
AS YOU CAN SEE, I CAN'T EVEN FIND THE WAITING ROOM ON MY OWN.
HEE HEE...
I REALLY AM USELESS.
AT THIS RATE, MY CAREER MIGHT END BEFORE I EVEN MAKE IT BIG...
I DON'T THINK THAT'LL HAPPEN.
THANK YOU FOR TRYING TO CHEER ME UP, BUT THE REALITY IS THAT NO ONE KNOWS MY NAME!
BUT...

I'LL DO ANYTHING TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL!
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO SUCK UP TO TODAY'S OVERSEAS ARTIST AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE! I DON'T CARE IF PEOPLE CRITICIZE ME FOR IT!
THAT'S...
I WANT TO STAND IN THE SPOTLIGHT, EVEN IF IT'S JUST ONCE.
THANK YOU AGAIN! THE STAFF MEMBERS HERE REALLY ARE SO GOOD-LOOKING!
GOODBYE!
OH, WE'RE HERE! SORRY FOR BRINGING UP SUCH A WEIRD TOPIC.

STAFF MEMBERS...?

GOOD MORNING!
THANKS FOR TUNING IN TO WAIWAIDO!
IT REALLY IS HOT TODAY, ISN'T IT?
IT'S BEEN HOT OUT RECENTLY.
IT'S 97°F HERE IN MINATO WARD WHERE THE STUDIO IS.
THIS HEAT IS RIDICULOUS!
BUT EVEN HOTTER ARE THE GUESTS WE HAVE TODAY!

FIRST WE HAVE MOMOKA, AN IDOL.
HELLO, EVERYONE!

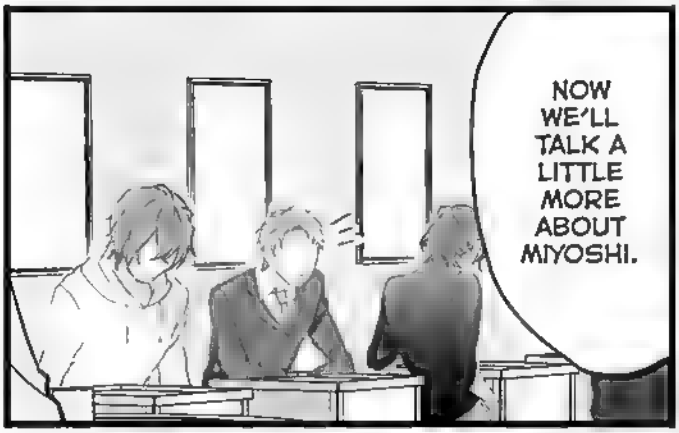

THIS NEXT GROUP HAS BEEN A HOT TOPIC RECENTLY.
AND HERE ARE OUR NEXT GUESTS...
HUH? HE'S MOVING ON ALREADY?!
YOU REALLY ARE CUTE!
THANK YOU.

PLEASE WELCOME THE THREE MEMBERS OF MIYOSHI!

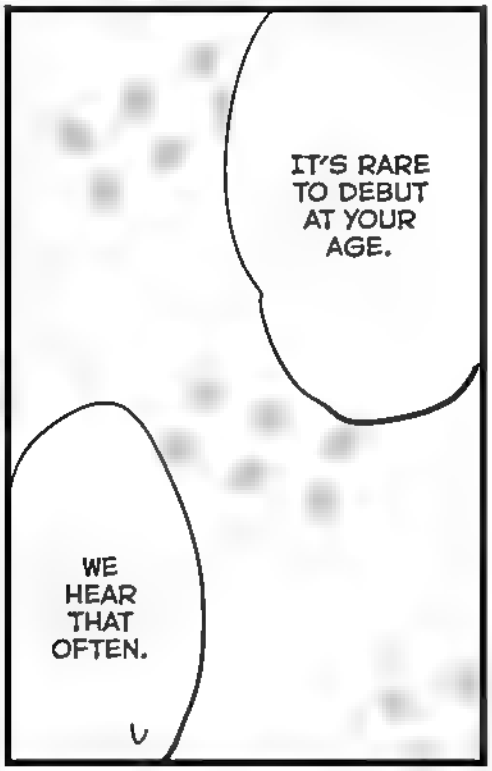
WHAT? WHAT'S GOING ON?!
AND TALL!
YOU GUYS ARE SO COOL.
HUH?!
OH, NO...

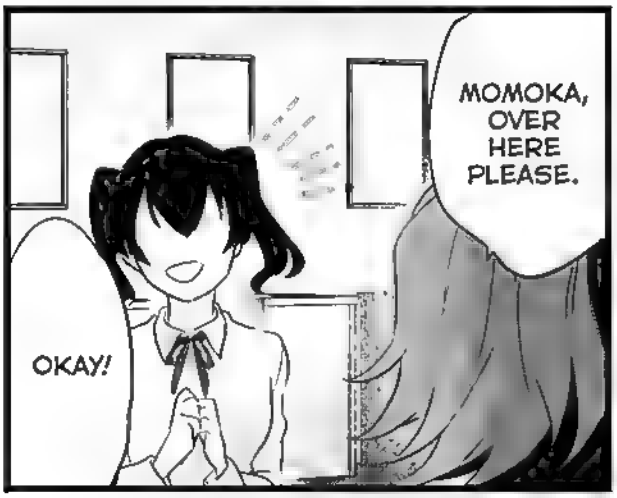
IT'S TRUE THAT THEY'RE GOOD-LOOKING, BUT...
THEY'RE GUESTS ON THE SHOW?

WAIT, REALLY?!
?!
EEP
MIYOSHI IS SUCH A HOT IDOL GROUP RIGHT NOW.


NOW WE'LL TALK A LITTLE MORE ABOUT MIYOSHI.

GLARE


IT'S RARE TO DEBUT AT YOUR AGE.
WE HEAR THAT OFTEN.


MOMOKA, OVER HERE PLEASE.
OKAY!

?

WAIT A SECOND, WHAT IS GOING ON? ARE THEY REALLY IDOLS?!
BUT NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I'VE BEEN HEARING THE NAME MIYOSHI A LOT RECENTLY.
THIS IS BAD. AT THIS RATE, MY FIRST EVER TV APPEARANCE...
WILL END BEFORE I CAN ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING!
I'LL DO ANYTHING IT TAKES TO STAND...
IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

I'M A HUGE FAN...
MR. MIYOSHI!
SQUEEZE
MIYOSHI IS THEIR UNIT NAME.
OH, IS THAT SO?
HA HA...

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO WORK-ING WITH YOU!
...SAME HERE.
NOW FOR TODAY'S NEWS...

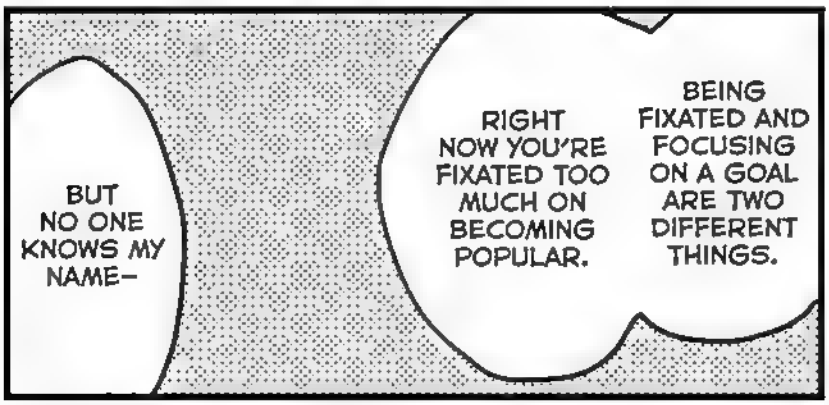
HEY.
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF FILMING. WHAT IS IT?
HASN'T THAT MUTOU GUY BEEN GLARING AT YOU THIS ENTIRE TIME?
...

I NEED TO DO SOME-THING ABOUT THIS.
DID YOU DO SOMETHING TO HIM, OSSAN?
NOT THAT I CAN REMEMBER.
STAY TUNED!
AFTER THE BREAK, WE'LL HAVE OUR GUESTS TELL US ABOUT THE PEOPLE THEY LIKE!
UM...
OKAY!
CUT FOR A COMMERCIAL BREAK.

Q TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAVORITE PERSON OR THING
MY FAVORITE PERSON/THING IS...
I'M GOING TO WRITE...
ABOUT THE CARDS WE HAVE TO WRITE FOR THE NEXT SEGMENT...
YES?
THAT I LIKE MIROKU!
WHAT?!
I THINK MR. OSAKI WOULD BE TROUBLED BY THAT...
PLEASE ALLOW ME THIS MUCH!

I'LL NEVER GET A HEAD START IF I DON'T GET SOME ATTENTION.
I DON'T CARE IF OTHERS CRITICIZE ME.
BUT IF AN IDOL SAYS THAT SORT OF THING, YOU'RE SURE TO BE CRITICIZED–
I DON'T WANT THINGS TO END THIS WAY!
I DON'T CARE!
IT'S NOT THAT YOU CAN'T BECOME POPULAR.
MOMOKA–

IT'S JUST THAT YOU'RE NOT POPULAR YET.


BUT NO ONE KNOWS MY NAME–
RIGHT NOW YOU'RE FIXATED TOO MUCH ON BECOMING POPULAR.
BEING FIXATED AND FOCUSING ON A GOAL ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.

HUH?

!

THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF SPOTLIGHT YOU WANT ON YOU, IS IT?

MR. MUTOU...
WE WERE PLANNING ON PLAYING THE SOUNDTRACK DURING THEIR INTRODUCTION, SO WE HAVE IT READY.
HUH?!
HEY, LET'S HAVE MIYOSHI PERFORM THEIR NEW SONG BEFORE THE NEXT SEGMENT.

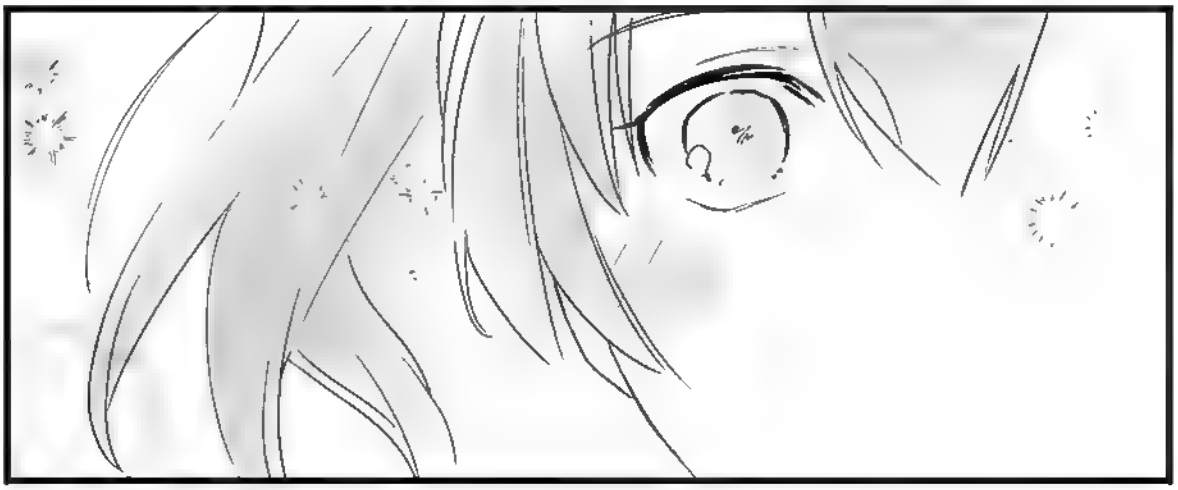
MR. MUTOU, HOW COULD THEY PERFORM WITHOUT A REHEARSAL?
I'M SORRY, MIYOSHI!
BUT IT'S SUCH A SUDDEN REQUEST...
ALL THAT MATTERS IS WHETHER OR NOT YOU GUYS WILL DO IT.

WE'LL DO IT.

PLEASE ALLOW US TO PERFORM.
SINCE YOU'RE GIVING US A CHANCE...
THE COMMERCIAL BREAK IS ALMOST OVER!
FOUR...
THREE... TWO...
YEAH.
THAT'S RIGHT.

THIS SONG IS CALLED "PUZZLE" AND IS CURRENTLY BEING USED...
IN THE ANIME *MIKULOTTE Ω!*
BEFORE WE MOVE ON TO OUR NEXT SEGMENT...
MIYOSHI WILL BE PERFORMING THEIR NEWEST SINGLE LIVE!

THAT'S RIGHT. THE IDOLS I ADORED...
WERE ALWAYS STRAIGHTFORWARD...
AND SPARKLED IN A WAY...
THAT DREW IN THE PEOPLE WATCHING THEM.



THAT WAS AMAZING, MIYOSHI!
THANKS A LOT!
ALL RIGHT.
PLEASE HURRY AND WRITE YOUR RESPONSES ON THE CARDS.
WHEN I'M WATCHING YOU, I FORGET THAT YOU'RE ALL OSSANS.
HONESTLY, PERFOR-MANCES TAKE A LOT OUT OF US...
THERE'S SO MUCH TO DO ON SET!

OH.
TALK TO MIYOSHI LATER!
C-CAN WE GET A BREAK...?
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
THAT REALLY MADE YOU SOUND LIKE AN OSSAN.
THEN LET'S HEAR FROM MOMOKA FIRST.
ARE YOU READY?
YES!

MY FAVORITE PEOPLE ARE...
IDOLS!
IDOLS? SHOULDN'T YOU WRITE THAT YOU LOVE YOUR FANS?
WELL, I LOVE THEM TOO!
BUT IT WAS MY LOVE FOR IDOLS THAT MADE ME WANT TO BECOME ONE MYSELF.
I USED TO BE A FAN, BUT I'M AN IDOL TODAY...
BECAUSE OF THE IDOLS WHO TAUGHT ME ABOUT THIS INDUSTRY.

BUT I WROTE "IDOLS" BECAUSE I WANT TO BE THE KIND OF PERSON WHO CAN MAKE OTHERS DREAM, TOO!
THAT'S WHY MY FANS ARE PRECIOUS TO ME...
BUT IN THAT CASE...
...

...DOESN'T THAT MEAN YOU LOVE YOURSELF, AS AN IDOL?
アアアアア
FLUSH
UM, I'M GOING TO CHANGE MY ANSWER!
MOMOKA REALLY IS A DITZ, HUH?
PAH HA HA HA

EXCUSE ME.
KNOCK
KNOCK
HELLO, MR. MUTOU.
THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US PR TIME FOR OUR LATEST SINGLE.
NO, THANK YOU FOR GOING ALONG WITH MY SUDDEN REQUEST.
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
UH, I JUST WANTED TO THANK YOU.
THANK ME?

CLANG
WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, I WAS... BULL-HEADED BEFORE I HAD MY BIG BREAK.
WHEN NO ONE WOULD GIVE ME THE TIME OF DAY...
THAT LINE I SAID TO MOMOKA EARLIER IS SOMETHING THAT I STOLE FROM SOMEONE ELSE.
HUH?
JUST BECAUSE HE'S ALREADY MADE IT BIG!
AT THAT AUDITION JUST NOW THAT GUY ACTED ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY...
DAMN IT!
I CAN BE A HUGE HIT, TOO!
HEY, YOU!
EVERY-ONE'S MAKIN' FUN OF ME!

IT'S NOT THAT YOU CAN'T MAKE IT BIG. IT'S JUST THAT YOU HAVEN'T YET.
HUH?
REACH
CAN I...
GIVE YOU A PIECE OF ADVICE?
CRAP, DID HE HEAR WHAT I SAID JUST NOW?
GOOD, I'M GLAD I CAUGHT YOU.
YOU'RE FROM THE AUDI-TION...
AH...
THANKS.
YOU FORGOT THIS.
AND FOCUSING ON YOUR GOAL ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.
BEING FIXATED...

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

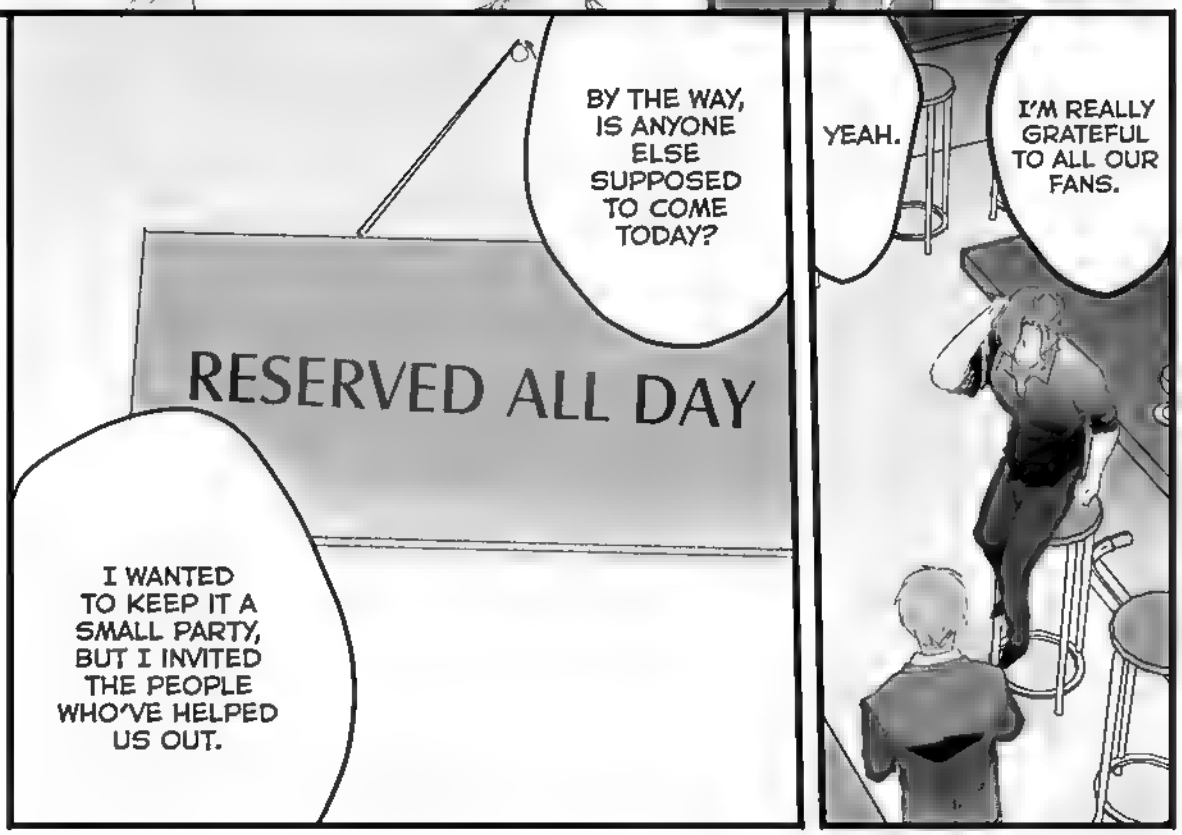
IT'S BECAUSE YOU SAID THAT...
THAT I'M HERE NOW.

HE WAS JUST NERVOUS.
APPARENTLY NOT.
STIFF
STIFF
I SEE.
SO IT WASN'T THAT HE HATED YOU.
I WAS SURE YOU'D DONE SOMETHING TO HIM, OSSAN.
YOU KNOW--
HEY, WHERE'S FUMI?
WHERE'S SHE BEEN ALL THIS TIME?
SHE DISAPPEARED BEFORE WE GOT TO THE STUDIO.
AH, SHE'S WORKING ON ANOTHER PROJECT.

WHAT IS THIS?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE WHITE PRINCE?
16:ANONYMOUS
EVERYTHING IS FAKE, RIGHT?
17:ANONYMOUS
OR RATHER, IT'S ALL STAGED.
18:ANONYMOUS

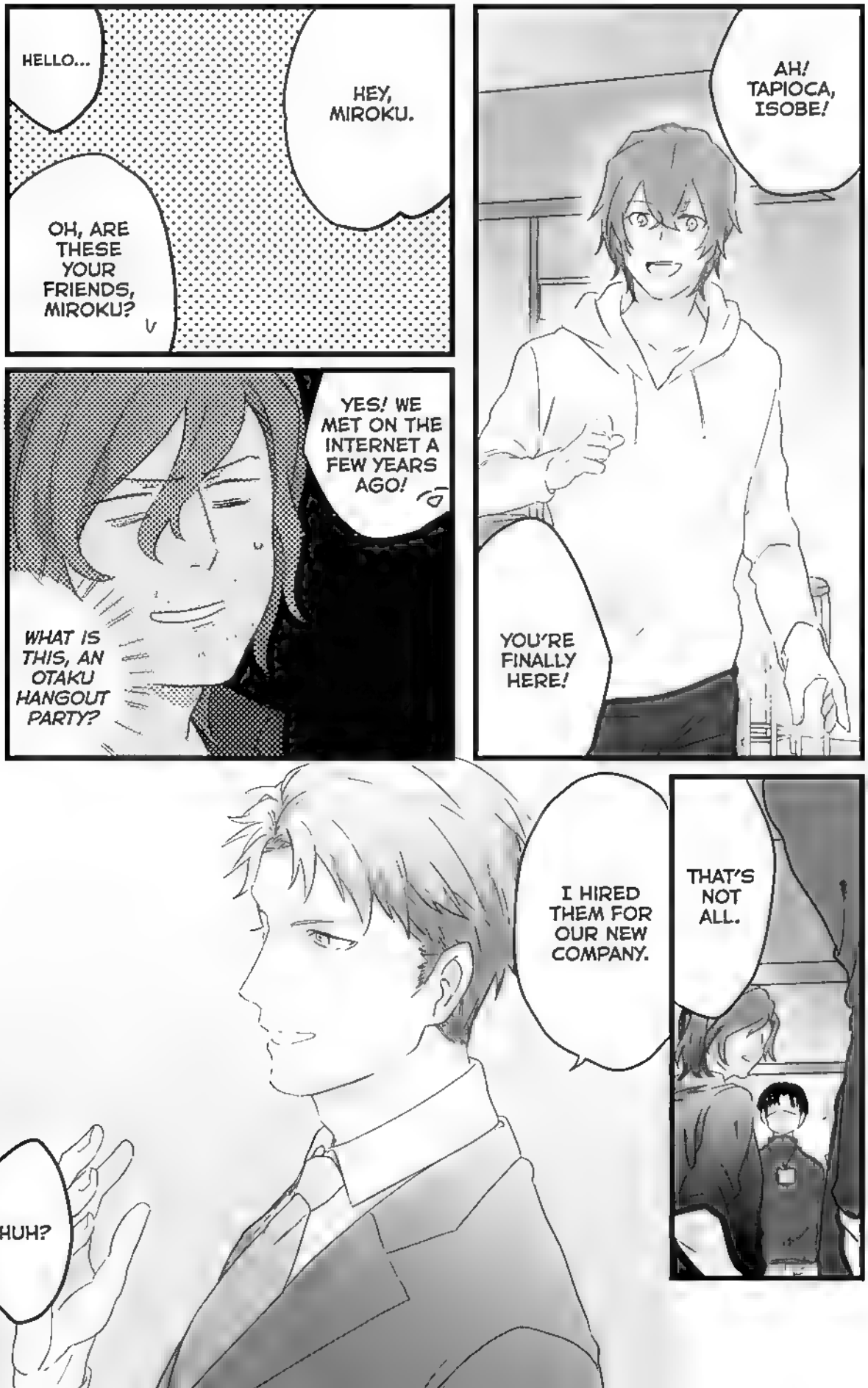
LET'S CELEBRATE!
THIRD IN THE WEEKLY CHARTS!
CONGRATS ON RANK-ING...

Chapter 15


BY THE WAY, IS ANYONE ELSE SUPPOSED TO COME TODAY?
RESERVED ALL DAY
I WANTED TO KEEP IT A SMALL PARTY, BUT I INVITED THE PEOPLE WHO'VE HELPED US OUT.
YEAH.
I'M REALLY GRATEFUL TO ALL OUR FANS.

KER-CHAK
MR. SAKAGUCHI EVEN ALLOWED US TO RENT OUT THE BAR FOR THE DAY.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS MR. LAVENDER AND—
AH, SORRY. WE'VE RESERVED THE BAR FOR TODAY...
TO CELE-BRATE THE LAUNCH OF OUR TALENT AGENCY.
OH, IT'S FINE. WE'VE BEEN INVITED.
HUH?

I'M TAPIOCA!
SERIOUSLY?
STAFF
SEE? I EVEN HAVE A STAFF ID.
AND YOU ARE...?
SAME FOR HIM.
I'M ISOBE.
YOU'RE SO QUIET!
BOW


HELLO...
HEY, MIROKU.
OH, ARE THESE YOUR FRIENDS, MIROKU?
AH! TAPIOCA, ISOBE!
YES! WE MET ON THE INTERNET A FEW YEARS AGO!
WHAT IS THIS, AN OTAKU HANGOUT PARTY?
YOU'RE FINALLY HERE!
I HIRED THEM FOR OUR NEW COMPANY.
THAT'S NOT ALL.
HUH?

MIROKU INTRODUCED THEM TO ME, SO THEY'LL BE HELPING US OUT.
BUT THEY'LL MOSTLY BE WORKING FROM HOME, SO I DOUBT WE'LL MEET UP MUCH.
I'M NOT VERY FAMILIAR WITH THE INTERNET.
Calendar
NEW
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU KNOW THE FIRST THING ABOUT MARKETING...
STARE
THAT'S SO MEAN!
AND THAT'S THAT!
GRIN
BY THE WAY, I'LL BE IN CHARGE OF MARKETING.

@XX_0X△
I'M A COSPLAYER.
I LIKE XX!
FOLLOWING: 101 / FOLLC
@XX_0X
TODAY I PARTICIPATED
IN OO AND TOOK A PIC
DESPITE HIS LOOKS, TAPIOCA IS ACTUALLY A SUPER FAMOUS COSPLAYER AND HAS DRAWN A HUGE FOLLOWING ON SOCIAL MEDIA.
NAH, I'M NOT THAT AMAZING.

SOMETHING ABOUT HIM PISSES ME OFF, THOUGH...

HIS PUBLICITY ALONG WITH OUR TV APPEARANCE IS WHAT ALLOWED US TO REACH OUR CURRENT RANKING.
REALLY?

HE'LL BE MANAGING THE COMPANY'S WEBSITE, INCLUDING ITS SECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE.
BOW
AND THAT GUY IS ALSO A NEW EMPLOYEE?
FLINCH
YES! ISOBE USED TO WORK AS A SYSTEMS ENGINEER.
THEY'LL BE MANAGING OUR PR AND IT SYSTEMS REMOTELY!
SHUFFLE
HE'S NOT COMFORTABLE AROUND WOMEN, IS HE?

ANYWAY, ISOBE AND I ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU GUYS!
LET GO...
WELL...
MIROKU HAS REALLY LOOKED OUT FOR US IN THE PAST!
HE'S STILL HELPING US OUT EVEN NOW!
THIS GUY IS SO CHATTY...
YEAH!
SAME HERE.
CHEERS!
WE'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU.

HUH?
WHILE WE'RE HERE...
LET'S TAKE A PHOTO!♡
SINCE YOU MADE IT TO THIRD PLACE ON THE CHARTS, WE HAVE TO PUT THIS ON MIYOSHI'S BLOG!
H-HEY!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S MANAGING MIYOSHI'S OFFICIAL BLOG?!

MIYOSHI'S DEBUT SINGLE, WHICH WENT ON SALE A FEW DAYS AGO...

HAS ALREADY REACHED THIRD PLACE ON THE WEEKLY CHARTS! ◇◇

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT! PLEASE CONTINUE TO ENJOY MIYOSHI'S MUSIC AND EVENTS.

TODAY, THE MEMBERS HAVE GATHERED TO CELEBRATE!

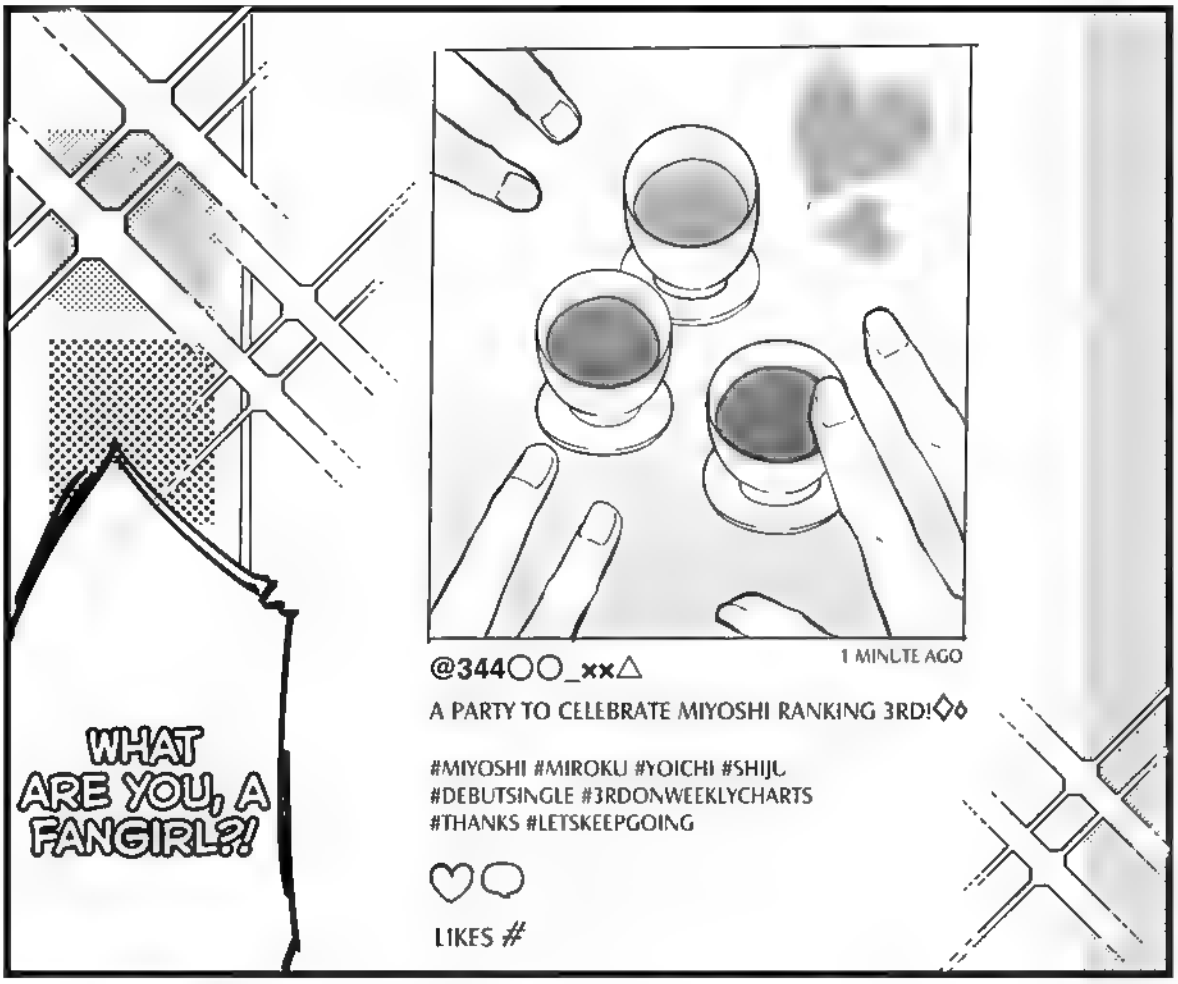
HUH? UH... SURE.

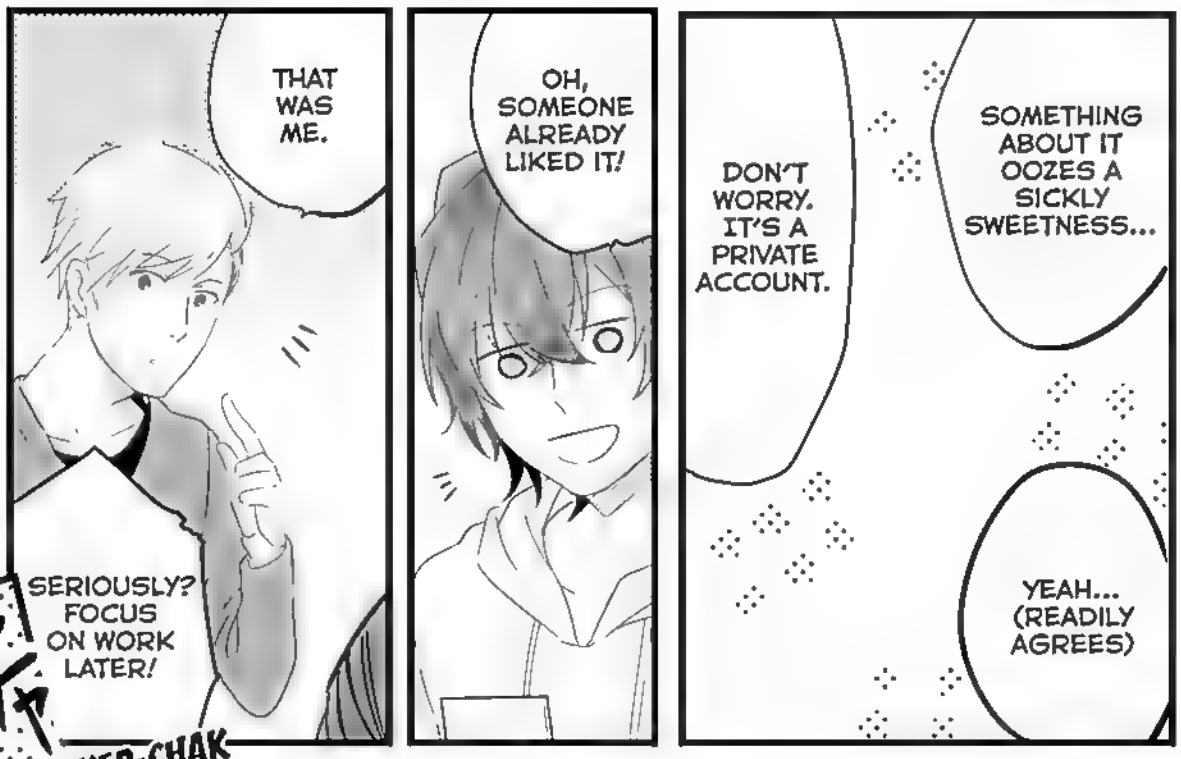
UM, MAY I TAKE A PHOTO TOO?

I WANT TO POST IT ON MY PERSONAL ACCOUNT, SO JUST YOUR HANDS IS FINE.

I THOUGHT FUMI OR YOICHI WERE THE ONES WRITING IT...

HE HAS A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT TONE OF VOICE WHEN HE WRITES!


WHAT ARE YOU, A FANGIRL?!
@344○○_××△
1 MINUTE AGO
A PARTY TO CELEBRATE MIYOSHI RANKING 3RD!◇◊
#MIYOSHI #MIROKU #YOICHI #SHIJU
#DEBUTSINGLE #3RDONWEEKLYCHARTS
#THANKS #LETSKEEPGOING
LIKES #


THAT WAS ME.
SERIOUSLY? FOCUS ON WORK LATER!
KER-CHAK
OH, SOMEONE ALREADY LIKED IT!
DON'T WORRY. IT'S A PRIVATE ACCOUNT.
SOMETHING ABOUT IT OOZES A SICKLY SWEETNESS...
YEAH... (READILY AGREES)

OH? EVERYONE'S HERE ALREADY?
YOU'RE ALL EARLY...
SHUT

HOLD UP!
KER-CHAK
YOU'RE ALL EARLY, HUH?
WHO IS THIS CUTIE? I WANT TO EAT HIM UP.
WOW, IS IT REALLY YOU, MR. LAVENDER?! AMAZING!
PLEASE DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT WITH A SERIOUS FACE.
OH, WAS SOMEONE ELSE HERE?
IGNORE
WHO WAS THAT JUST NOW?!
YEAH!

CONGRATS ON RANKING THIRD.
THIS IS THE RESULT OF ALL YOUR HARD WORK.
PUTTING THAT ASIDE, I HAVEN'T SAID IT YET.
MR. LAVENDER...
NOW...
SAID WHAT?
YAY!
LET'S GO WILD!
MY HEAD HURTS...

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE WHITE PRINCE?
16·ANONYMOUS
EVERYTHING IS FAKE, RIGHT?
17·ANONYMOUS
OR RATHER, IT'S ALL STAGED
BUT...
18.ANONYMOUS
IT'S THE RESULT OF THEIR HARD WORK...!
UM, MR. ISOBE...
Y-YES?
THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT...

HEY THERE!
TURN
!
HOLD ON A SECOND! UM...
IS HE TRYING TO HIT ON ME?
I DON'T KNOW HIM.
AH, WAIT!
YOU'RE MIROKU'S OLDER SISTER, RIGHT?

DO YOU REMEMBER ME?
...SORRY, BUT NO.
HAVE WE MET BEFORE?
YES! JUST ONCE, THOUGH.
OH... I SEE...
すーーん
GLOOM
...
!
YOUR VOICE...

TWITCH
I REMEMBER IT.
I THOUGHT YOU HAD A CLEAR VOICE WHEN I FIRST HEARD IT.
I'M KOUSHUU ONO, A VOICE ACTOR!
I CAME TO SEE YOU BECAUSE I'D LIKE TO GET CLOSER TO YOU!
SHINE
しゃあ
あ
…
I'LL GO WITH YOU!
SORRY, BUT I'M ABOUT TO MEET UP WITH SOMEONE.
WHAT IS HE, A PUPPY?
SURE!
COULD I HAVE SOME SPACE?

SMILE
SMILE
SMILE
SMILE

HOW DID THINGS TURN OUT LIKE THIS?

ONO, WHY HAVE YOU JOINED US TODAY?
PLEASE LET THINGS END PEACEFULLY...

I'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED SUCH A HEAVY ATMOSPHERE AT A RESTAURANT BEFORE.
AND WHY IS ONO HERE?!

BECAUSE I WANT TO GET CLOSER TO MIROKU'S OLDER SISTER!
GYAAAH!

THIS GUY...
BUT IT'S EVERY MAN'S DREAM TO BE CLOSE WITH A BEAUTIFUL OLDER WOMAN!
I TOLD YOU THAT I DON'T FEEL THAT WAY TOWARD YOU, DIDN'T I?
YEP!
SHE'S MY GIRLFRIEND, SO I HOPE YOU AREN'T LOOKING FOR A ROMANTIC RELATIONSHIP.
!
WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAY YOU WANT TO "GET CLOSE" TO HER?
WHAT'S WRONG, MIHACHI?
I'M YOUR... GIRL-FRIEND...?
UM, YOICHI...

WE'RE DATING...
AREN'T WE?
NOD
NOD

YES, YOU ARE.
WAIT, AM I BOTHERING YOU?!
IF MIHACHI IS FINE WITH YOU HANGING AROUND I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM...
BUT IF YOU'RE BOTHERING HER, I'LL HAVE TO PUT MY FOOT DOWN.
NO WAY...
POOR ONO.
アー…
PHEW
HOPEFULLY THIS WILL KNOCK SOME SENSE INTO HIM.
BUT I WON'T GIVE UP!
EAGER
JUST HOW MUCH OF A POSITIVE THINKER IS HE?!

WHAT KIND OF PLANS?
I HAVE MY OWN PLANS.
YOU KNOW...
I'M NOT A KID, SO THAT KIND OF THREAT WON'T WORK ON ME...
A HA HA, LIKE I'D BELIEVE THAT.
LIKE MAKING YOU DISAPPEAR.
YOU THINK IT'S JUST A THREAT?

L-LIKE YOU COULD DO THAT!
HERE'S YOUR FOOD.
HA HA, ONO...
YOU SHOULDN'T UNDERESTIMATE ADULTS.

YOU NEVER KNOW IF THEY'RE KEEPING A VIGILANT EYE OUT...
FOR A CHANCE TO USE THEM.
ADULTS KNOW ALL THE LOOP-HOLES AND DIRTY TRICKS AVAILABLE.
BY THE WAY, I HATE HAVING THINGS TAKEN FROM ME.
WHAT DO YOU THINK I'D DO IF A GUY TRIED TO GET CLOSE TO MY GIRLFRIEND?

CHOMP
TAKE YOUR TIME TO THINK.
GULP
...
NOW...
WHAT A SHAME. HE ONLY MADE IT THROUGH ONE BITE.
CLATTER
I-I'LL BE GOING NOW!

HOW DOES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL?
MIHACHI, IT SEEMS WE'RE DATING NOW.
HUH?
UH...
SORRY.
BUT YOU REALLY HELPED ME OUT.
!
PLEASE SAVE THAT KIND OF TALK FOR WHEN YOU TWO ARE ALONE.

YEAH... BUT I THOUGHT HE WAS JOKING.
WELL, IT'S A GOOD THING YOU DID.
YOU TOLD ME BEFORE THAT ONO WAS PLANNING TO ASK MIHACHI OUT.
IF YOU HADN'T, I WOULDN'T HAVE TRIED GETTING IN TOUCH WITH HIS AGENCY'S CEO.
HUH?

HEY, ONO.
HELLO, SIR!
A CERTAIN VOICE ACTOR'S TALENT AGENCY
WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?
BUT IT SEEMS YOU WERE TOO HIGH-SPIRITED AND CAUSED TROUBLE FOR MR. KISARAGI THE OTHER DAY.
HUH?
YEP!
HEH HEH...
YOU'RE ALWAYS IN HIGH SPIRITS.
IT'S A GOOD THING.

ONO, DO YOU KNOW...
TAMURA, WHO QUIT LAST WEEK?
PLUS HE SAID SOMETHING WEIRD, LIKE HE WOULD MAKE ME DISAPPEAR OR SOMETHING. WHAT IS HE, A YAKUZA MEMBER?
NOT REALLY. THIS AGENCY ALLOWS US TO DATE WHO WE WANT, AFTER ALL.
WHY DID YOU BRING HIM UP?
HE WAS IN ACCOUNTING, RIGHT?
HUH?
...SIR?

BE CAREFUL GETTING HOME.
UH... SIR?
...
DON'T TELL ME...
ONO, YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE A BREAK FROM WORK FOR A WHILE.
THAT'S ALL.
SHUT
DIDN'T TAMURA...
SAY HE WAS QUITTING TO TAKE OVER HIS FAMILY'S FARM?
?
YEAH. APPARENTLY HE'S ENJOYING THE COUNTRYSIDE.
BUT I'M SURE THIS WILL TEACH ONO A LESSON.
SMILE
SMILE

Chapter 16

ALL DONE!
THIS TURNED OUT NICELY. I'D BETTER POST A PICTURE OF IT ONLINE.
NEW
I CREATED MY FIRST FIGURE! XX/XX/XXXX
THERE ARE 10 NEW COMME
I WONDER IF SOMEONE WILL NOTICE IT...
/XXXX
T FIGURE!
THE FIGURE I WAS CREA
IS FINALLY DONE!
I'VE NEVER MADE A FIG
I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE T

1:
THIS IS TERRIBLE LOL
2:
YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT
3:
THE FACE IS COMPLETE
4:
YUP
VIEW MORE COMMENT
S 1 NEW CO
CLENCH
WHEN I SEE THIS FACE
11:
I THINK IT'S GREAT. THE POSE REALLY RESPECTS THE ORIGINAL CHARACTER AND IMPRESSED ME! I SUPPORT YOU!
12:

HAAAH...
I GOT IN TOUCH WITH A FIGURE MODELER...
BUT HE SAID HE CAN'T COME UP WITH AN IMAGE.
WHAT'S WRONG?
OH, MISS OSAKI...
AND YOU SAID THE MODELER IS FAMOUS IN HIS FIELD?
IS THIS FOR THE COMMERCIAL DEAL?
YES.

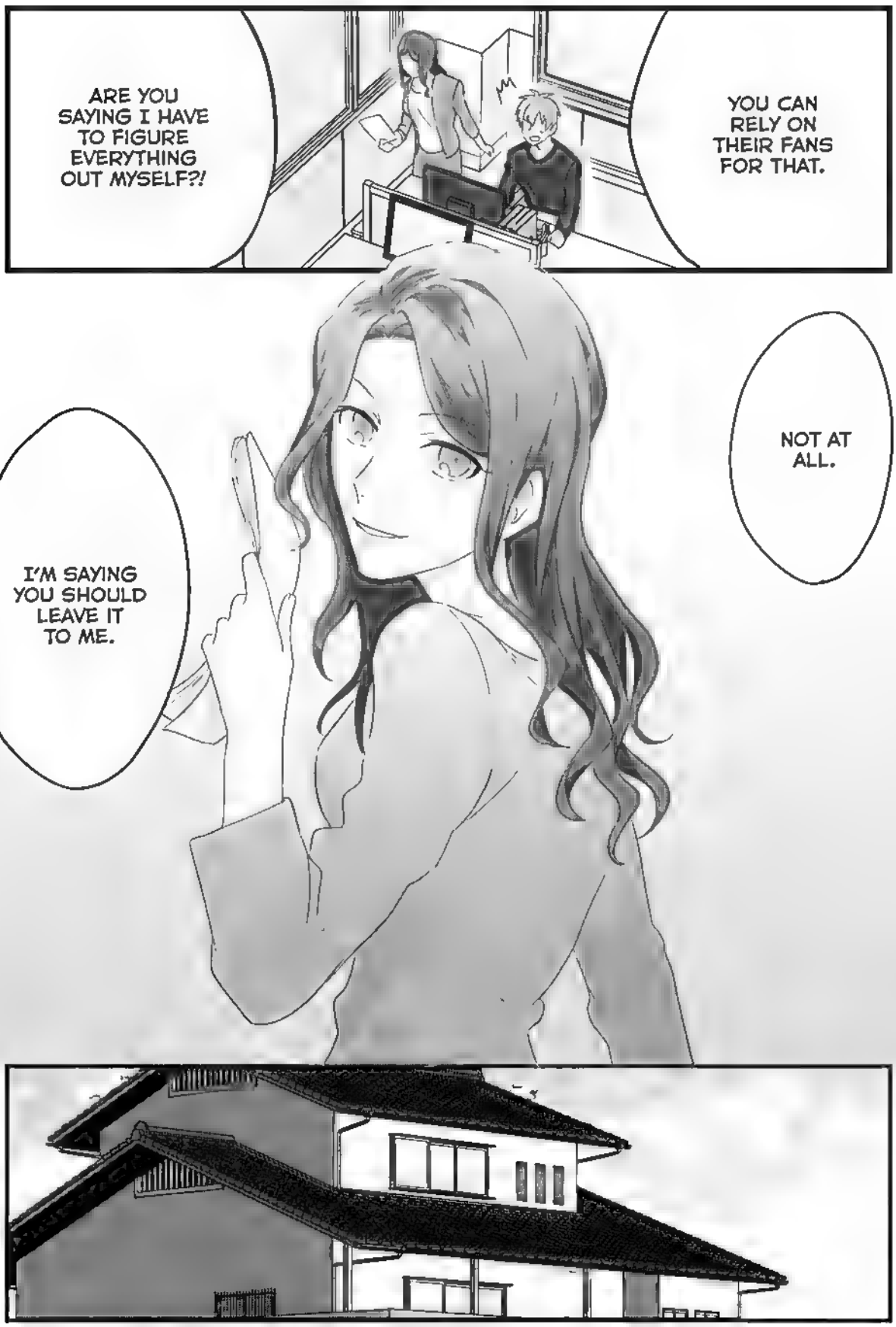
WHY IS A MODELER ESSENTIAL FOR A MAKEUP COMMERCIAL?
OH, NOT THAT ONE.
YES. HE'S VITAL IF WE WANT THE COLLABORATION PROJECT TO BE A SUCCESS.
COLLAB-ORATION?
THE THEME THIS TIME IS "SKIN AS FLAWLESS AS A DOLL'S"...
SO THE SUPER FAMOUS MODELER MR. MIMASAKA IS COLLABORATING WITH THE *MIKULOTTE* Ω ANIME TO CREATE AN ORIGINAL FIGURE!
MIKU-LOTTE Ω...
I FEEL LIKE I'VE HEARD THAT NAME RECENTLY.

THE MAIN CHARACTERS SING AND FIGHT ROBOTS. IT'S POPULAR WITH VIEWERS OF ALL AGES!
BLAB
BLAB
HMM... I DEFINITELY FEEL LIKE...
OH, RIGHT. I FORGOT THAT YOU'RE NOT INTERESTED IN ANIME, MISS OSAKI.
YEAH... WHAT'S IT ABOUT AGAIN?
I'VE HEARD OF IT BEFORE...
RECENTLY THE ANIME TEAMED UP WITH AN IDOL GROUP...

OH, DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM?
YOU MEAN MIYOSHI?
IF I REMEMBER RIGHT, THE ENEMY CHARACTERS WERE BASED ON MIYOSHI'S MEMBERS.
THEY ALSO SANG A SONG FOR THE ANIME, RIGHT?
MISS OSAKI, YOU SURE STAY IN THE KNOW!
I CAN'T TELL HIM THAT I'M RELATED TO ONE OF THE IDOLS...
WELL... I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT...
THAT'D BE A SURPRISE...
WAIT, REALLY?!
THAT'S RIGHT! MISS OSAKI, ARE YOU A MIYOSHI FAN?

WANT ME TO ASK THEM?
HUH?!
WELL, IT'S TRUE THAT THEY'RE REALLY COOL.
I WONDER IF THEY'D APPEAR IN A COMMERCIAL FOR US.
CRAP, I'VE DONE IT NOW.
YOU MEAN... ASK THEM DIRECTLY?!
AH.
OF COURSE.
SAFE!
I MEANT CONTACTING THEIR MANAGER TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT, OF COURSE.

BUT ISN'T IT WORTH A SHOT TO SEE IF THEY'D MEET THAT FAMOUS MODELER?
HUH?
I DOUBT I COULD CONVINCE THEM TO APPEAR IN A COMMERCIAL ON MY OWN, THOUGH.
MAYBE NOT...
YOU MEAN... THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO INSPIRE HIM?
YEAH.
SINCE THEY APPEAR IN THE ANIME, MAYBE THEY'D HAVE A GOOD INFLUENCE ON THE MODELER.
DO YOU THINK I'D BE ABLE TO CALL THEM HERE JUST FOR THAT?


ARE YOU SAYING I HAVE TO FIGURE EVERYTHING OUT MYSELF?!
YOU CAN RELY ON THEIR FANS FOR THAT.
NOT AT ALL.
I'M SAYING YOU SHOULD LEAVE IT TO ME.

I CAN'T COME UP WITH ANYTHING!
AHHH!
THIS IS THE END...
ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IS COMING TO MIND.
TOUYA MIMASAKA, FIGURE MODELER

WOULD SUIT COSMETICS?!
WHAT KIND OF FIGURE...
WHAT WOULD GIVE OFF THE BIGGEST "LIMITED EDITION" VIBE?!
SHOULD IT HAVE A DIRECT SINGING POSE?
NO, THERE ARE DOZENS OF FIGURES LIKE THAT ALREADY...
ISN'T IT CRAZY TO MAKE A FIGURE FOR WOMEN PERFORMING THEIR SKINCARE ROUTINE BEFORE THEY GO TO SLEEP?
AND WHY IS A COSMETICS BRAND CREATING A FIGURE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO HIGHLIGHT BOTH THE COSMETICS AND THE ANIME?!

WEARING A FACE MASK AT ALL TIMES!
SHE WOULD LOOK LIKE A MONSTER...
MY CAREER IS OVER...
IT'S NO GOOD...
I CAN'T SEE THE GOAL AT ALL.
EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WANT TO ACHIEVE HERE.

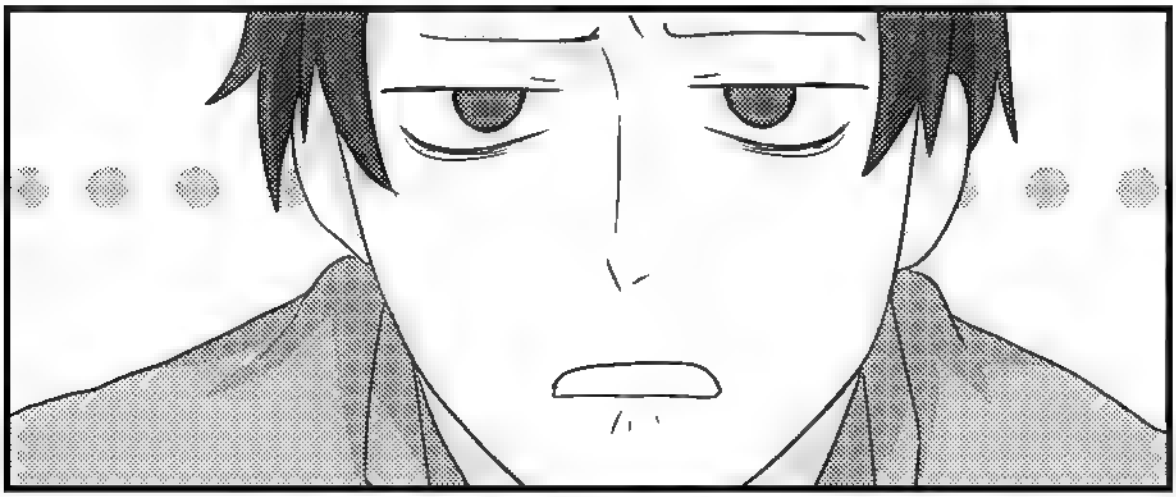
WHY DID I AGREE TO DO THIS?
FWUMP

GOALS FOR MYSELF IN THE BEGINNING...
EVEN THOUGH I NEVER CREATED...

R R R
NO. IN THE BEGINNING, I WAS...

R R R
RISE
UGH...
THEY'RE PROBABLY GOING TO PRESS ME FOR A DESIGN...
YES, THIS IS MIMA-SAKA.

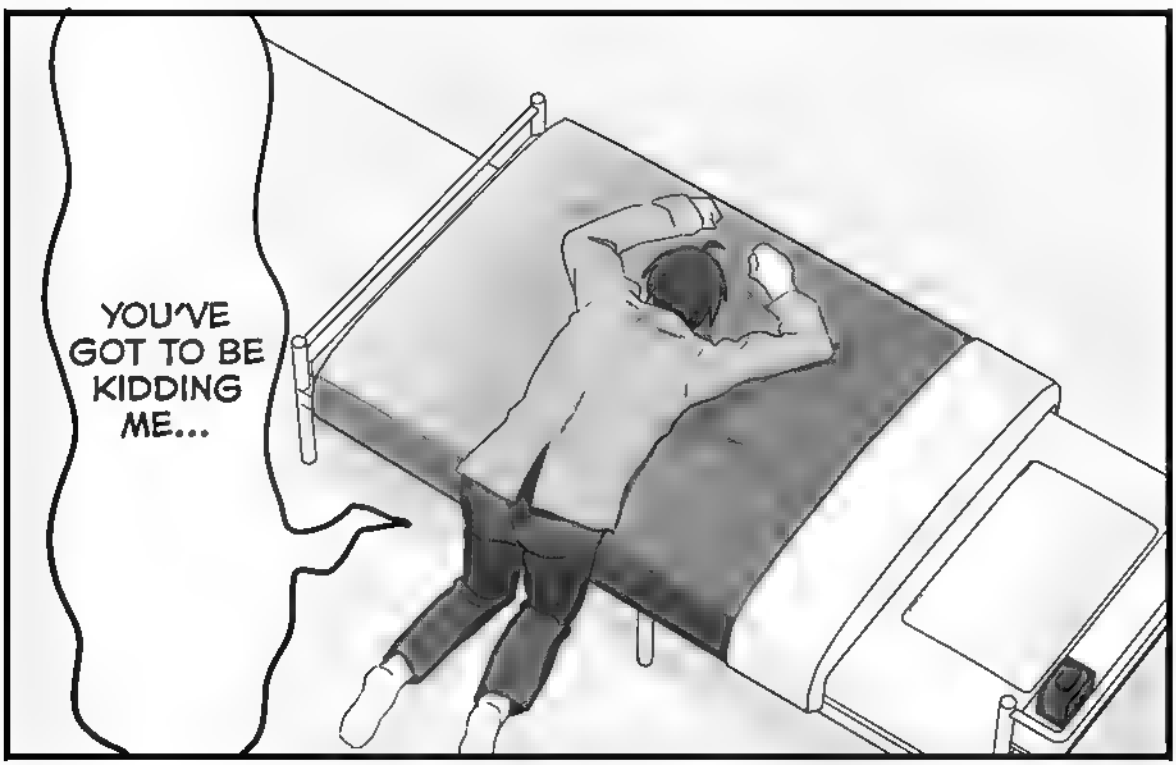
NO, I MEAN THE MEMBERS OF MIYOSHI! I GOT AN APPOINTMENT WITH THEM!
YOU MEAN... MEET THE ANIME CHARACTERS?
HUH? UH... MEET THEM?
HAH...
IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU COULD MEET THEM!
AS FOR THE DATE AND TIME, IT'S THIS SATURDAY AT...
I'M SURE THEY'LL INSPIRE YOU.
OKAY...
BEEP
SO SEE YOU THEN!



344

MIYOSHI: AN ALL-MALE JAPANESE IDOL GROUP.

MIYOSHI IS AN ALL-MALE JAPANESE IDOL GROUP THAT CONSISTS OF THE MEMBERS MIROKU, YOICHI, AND SHIJU. MIROKU UPLOADED A "LET'S TRY DANCING!" VIDEO OF HIM AT KARAOKE THAT WENT VIRAL AND LED TO HIS FAME AND THE NICKNAME



BUT I ENJOYED MAKING FIGURES.

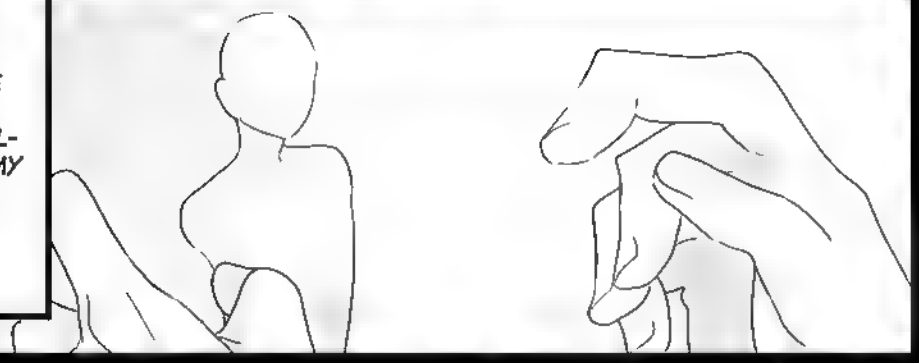
I NEVER ACTUALLY INTENDED TO BECOME A MODELER.

! I LOVE IT.
IALLY THE LINES OF
THE MUSCLES, WHICH MAKE
SO STRONG. I THINK THEY REA
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO Y

300
COMMENTS:

THIS TIME I M

AND I FOUND PEOPLE WHO ACKNOWL-EDGED MY WORK.



LOVE THIS FIGURE!

36: THE POSE IS SO CUTE.
ALL OF YOUR FIGURES
ARE NICE,
MR. MIMASAKA!

I'M YO

WHEN I AIMED HIGHER AND HIGHER...

LIKES: 1000
COMMENTS: 53

SINCE IT'S SUMM
I CHOSE A

AKI: MR. MIMASAKA HASN'T COME OUT WITH ANY NEW FIGURES R

K: MAYBE HE'S BUSY IN H

TRUFFLE: I'M SAD, TOO.

36: LET'S SUPPORT HIM!

OVER TIME, I REALIZED THAT I WAS ALONE.

THAT'S WHY, RIGHT NOW...
AND NOT PUT OUT HALF-HEARTED WORK.
THE ONLY THING I CAN DO IS BE HONEST...

YES. I KNOW IT'S A SUDDEN REQUEST, BUT THE PROJECT IS STILL IN ITS PLANNING STAGES...
SO I FIGURED NOW IS BETTER THAN LATER.
YOU WANT TO LEAVE THE PROJECT?
HMM...
MAY I ASK WHY?
I'M IN A SLUMP AND CAN'T THINK OF AN IMAGE THAT SUITS THE CONCEPT.
I DON'T WANT TO PUT OUT SOMETHING HALF-BAKED.
...
I SEE. I UNDERSTAND.

THIS GUY WASN'T LISTENING AT ALL!
UH... THAT'S NOT...
IN THAT CASE, EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE AS LONG AS WE DO OUR BEST TO HELP YOU THINK OF AN IMAGE, RIGHT?
SMILE
YOU ALREADY CALLED THEM HERE?!
THEY'RE WAITING IN THE NEXT ROOM, SO...
YOU'RE JUST GOING TO MOVE ON?!
NOW THAT THAT'S SETTLED, LET'S HAVE YOU MEET THE MEMBERS OF MIYOSHI.
IGNORE
YOU SAID YOU WERE ALL RIGHT WITH THE IDEA.
WELL, THAT'S... TRUE, I GUESS...

THIS WAY, PLEASE.
I'D BETTER JUST ACCEPT MY FATE...
A HOT GUY WHO LOOKS LIKE HE CAME RIGHT OUT OF AN ANIME WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER...
カチャ
KER-CHAK
BUT THESE GUYS ARE SUBCHARACTERS, NOT TO MENTION MALE IDOLS...
IT'D BE ONE THING IF IT WAS THE MAIN CHARACTER...
WHY DO I HAVE TO DEAL WITH A BUNCH OF OSSANS WHEN I LITERALLY JUST SAID I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING?
AND I READ ONLINE THAT THEY'RE ALL OSSANS.

OH, ARE YOU MR. MIMASAKA?
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU!
A HOT GUY WHO LOOKS LIKE HE CAME RIGHT OUT OF AN ANIME!

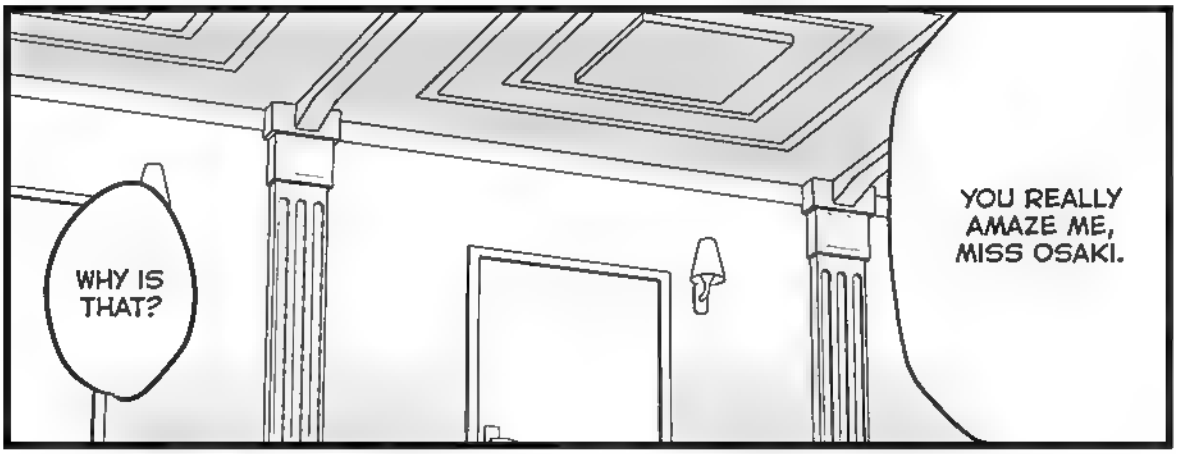
LET ME INTRODUCE YOU ALL.
SERIOUSLY?
I SAW THE 2D CHARACTERS DESIGNS...
THIS IS MIROKU.
AND THIS IS SHIJU.
THE ARTISTS DID A GREAT JOB OF CAPTURING THEIR LOOKS!
THIS IS YOICHI.
TALK ABOUT A LINEUP OF GOOD-LOOKING GUYS...
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
UM...

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WORKED UNDER YOUR REAL NAME?!
Y-YES...
AND YOU POST PICTURES OF YOUR FIGURES ON YOUR BLOG, RIGHT?
Y-YES, I DO.
AND YOUR FIRST FIGURE WAS OF KAITO FROM RAID PLANET, A CHARACTER WHO HADN'T YET BEEN MADE INTO A FIGURE, RIGHT?!
WAIT, HOW DOES HE KNOW ALL THAT?
YES, IT WAS...
I...
IT CAN'T BE...

36: SO COOL! I LOVE IT.
ESPECIALLY THE LINES OF THE MUSCL
MAKE THEM LOOK SO STRONG. I TH
REALLY SUIT THE CHARACTER! I'M LO
FORWARD TO YOUR FUTURE WORKS

YOU'RE THE USER NAMED 36?!
YEP!
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HASN'T IT?
STAGGER

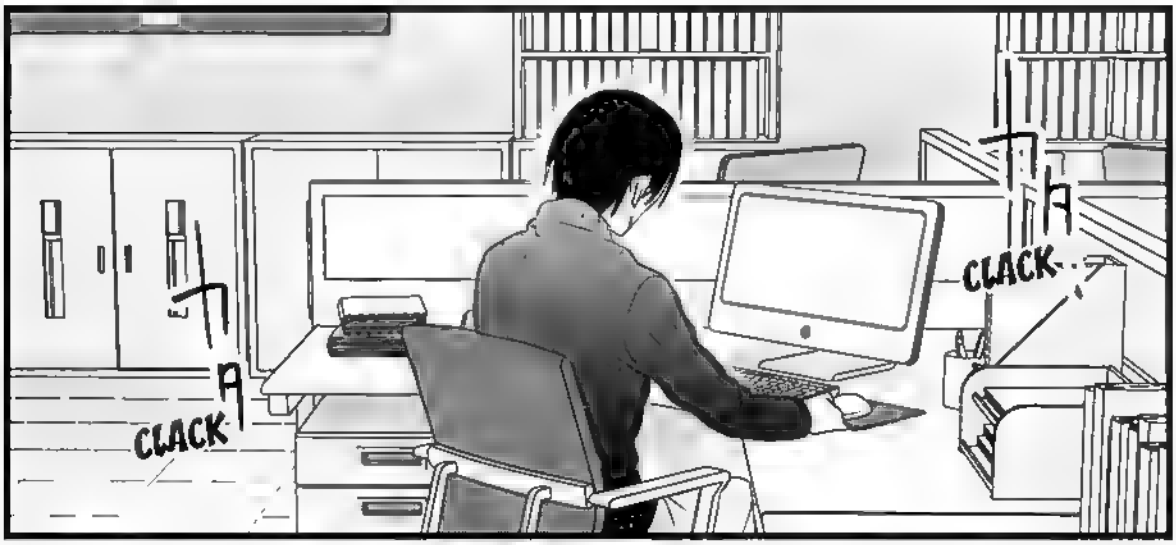
MISS OSAKI!
!
YOU'RE IN A GOOD MOOD.
HOW ARE THINGS GOING WITH THE COMMER-CIAL?
WOW. THAT'S NICE.
IT IS!
GREAT! THE MODELER SAID HE CAME UP WITH AN IDEA...
AND THAT HE MET SOMEONE WHO "MADE HIM REMEMBER HIS DAYS AS A NOVICE."


YOU REALLY AMAZE ME, MISS OSAKI.
WHY IS THAT?

DO YOU HAVE SOME CRAZY GOOD CONNECTIONS OR ARE YOU JUST GOOD AT STRING-PULLING?
NEITHER, REALLY.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GOT AN APPOINTMENT WITH MIYOSHI SO EASILY!
A HA HA...

THE MEMBERS OF MIYOSHI...
TREAT THEIR FANS WELL.



28:
SO APPARENTLY THE RUMOR ABOU
MIYOSHI WAS ALL FAKE.

29:
YOU MEAN THE ONE ABOUT EVERY
BEING STAGED?

30:
WHERE'S YOUR SOURCE?

31:
THE RUMOR WAS PRETTY DOUBTFU
BEGIN WITH. I DON'T NEED A SOU

32:
THERE'S NO NEED TO START RUMO
ABOUT THEM JUST BECAUSE THEY'
GOOD-LOOKING AND CAN SING A

33:
SO THE VIDEO OF THE WHITE PRIN
TAKEN BEFORE HE WENT PRO? LOL
CRAZY

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP, MR. ISOBE!
NO, I DIDN'T REALLY DO ANYTHING.
IT SEEMS A FAMOUS FIGURE MODELER WROTE ABOUT MIROKU ON HIS BLOG.
THANKS TO THAT, THERE ARE ONLY POSITIVE RUMORS CIRCULATING ABOUT HIM.
REALLY?
THAT'S A RELIEF!
...

OF COURSE!
I'M MIROKU'S MANAGER, AFTER ALL!
MISS FUMI, YOU ALWAYS... ERRM... GIVE YOUR ALL FOR MIYOSHI.
HMM?
NOTH-ING.
I'M JUST REFLECTING UPON MIROKU'S VIRTUES...
?
WHAT'S WRONG?
?

Chapter 17

GOOD WORK AT THE PHOTO SHOOT TODAY.
MIROKU!
FUMI!
NOPE! YOU'RE DONE FOR THE DAY.
TOMORROW YOU HAVE ANOTHER PHOTO SHOOT AT 10:00 A.M.
DO I HAVE ANYTHING ELSE ON MY SCHEDULE FOR TODAY?

MR. OSAKI!
IN THAT CASE...
IF YOU DON'T MIND, WOULD YOU LIKE TO–
DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE DONE FOR THE DAY TOO?
YEP! I'M TAKING THE REST OF THE DAY OFF.
CAN WE GO OVER THE PHOTOS WE JUST TOOK REAL QUICK?
HUH? OH, YES!
SLUMP
FUMI...
I'LL SEE YOU LATER, MIROKU.
BOW
AH...

FUMI!
MIROKU?
UM...
I'M GLAD I CAUGHT UP TO YOU.
WOULD YOU LIKE...
TO GET SOMETHING TO EAT WITH ME?
HOLD UP!

ARE YOU?
WHO...
FWAP

CALM DOWN!
I AM CALM, FUMI.
M-MAKI!
URK
STARE
MAKI?
I'M SORRY.
THIS IS MY BEST FRIEND, MAKI.
HMPH

MAKI, THIS IS MR. OSAKI FROM MY TALENT AGENCY.
I-IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU.
SMILE
STARE
YOU WORK WITH FUMI?
WHY DOES FUMI...
疑ッ
DOUBT
HAVE TO EAT WITH YOU IN HER PRIVATE TIME JUST BECAUSE YOU WORK AT THE SAME TALENT AGENCY?

SHE'S REALLY SUSPICIOUS OF ME!
NOT TO MENTION THAT OUTFIT... YOU LOOK LIKE A WEIRDO.
REALLY, REALLY SUSPICIOUS!
LEAN
IS THIS A NEW WAY OF PICKING UP WOMEN?
HUH? MIROKU?
HONEST!
MAKI, THAT'S NOT IT!

AND FUMI...
YOU KNOW...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
MURMUR
MURMUR
YOU GUYS ARE REALLY DRAWING ATTENTION. IS EVERYTHING OKAY?
LET'S TALK THINGS OUT.

SO AWK-WARD...
amily Restaurant
MAKI, WHY ARE YOU SO ANGRY?
BECAUSE THIS STRANGE MAN IS TRYING TO GET CLOSE TO YOU.
A STRANGE MAN?!

LEAN
JUST WHAT PART OF MY OLDER BROTHER IS STRANGE?
NINA?!
LIKE I SAID, THAT'S A MISUNDER-STANDING...
HMPH
HOLD ON.
WHAT PART? CAN'T YOU TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT HIM?
UM, THAT'S JUST GOING TO COMPLICATE THINGS...

I CAN'T EVEN DEFEND MYSELF...
GLOOM
h...
POINT
THE HAT, THE MASK, THE WHITE HOODIE... PLUS HE'S HUGE.
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, HE'S A SUSPICIOUS WEIRDO.
HE STANDS OUT ANYWAYS!
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M TRYING TO!
HE'S TRYING HIS HARDEST NOT TO STAND OUT!
BUT THAT'S A DISGUISE!
NINA...

WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO GET INVOLVED IN FUMI'S PRIVATE LIFE?
LET'S SAY YOU AREN'T ACTUALLY A WEIRDO.
FINE.
TH-THAT'S...
IT IS. AS FUMI'S BEST FRIEND, I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR PROTECTING HER.
IS THAT REALLY ANY OF YOUR BUSINESS?

HUH?
HUH?
WHAAAT?!
ALSO, FUMI HAS SOMEONE SHE LIKES.
WHY ARE YOU SO SURPRISED, FUMI? YOU TOLD ME ABOUT HIM.
HUH?!
REMEMBER? YOU SAID YOU'D MET YOUR HERO.

I'D NEVER SEEN YOUR EYES...
SPARKLE LIKE THAT BEFORE.
MAKI, LISTEN!
I MET SOMEONE AMAZING!
HE WAS MY HERO!
I COULDN'T SEE HIS FACE...
BUT I MET AN ACTUAL HERO WHO PUT HIMSELF ON THE LINE TO HELP SOMEONE ELSE!

SO...
IF YOU PLAN ON BUTTING INTO FUMI'S LOVE LIFE...
I'LL PROTECT HER FROM YOU!
MAKI...
HMPH...
THEN THERE'S NO PROBLEM.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE?

IS MY BROTHER.
BECAUSE HER HERO...
HUH?

OSSAN
IDOL

Original Short Story

by Mochiko Mochida

An Interview With the Ossan Idols, MiYoShi!

MiYoShi is an idol unit that has just gotten their first big break in the mainstream! They've joined us today for an interview.

First, can you please introduce yourselves?

Miroku (hereafter M): I'm here to spoil you, my princess. My name is Miroku.

Yoichi (hereafter Y): You want to be punished? Heh heh, what a bad girl. Call me Yoichi.

Shiju (hereafter S): Little kittens, come to me if you want a good time. I'm Shiju.

MiYoShi: Together, we are MiYoShi!

You introduce yourselves this way for the radio show as well, but who thinks of your lines?

M: I think of mine the day before and ask my family for advice.

Y: Most of the time I have a writer think of mine.

S: I just speak my true desires.

M: Whoa… Police, take him away.

Y: Don't worry, Miroku. Guys like Shiju are usually worthless when it comes to love.

S: Shut up!

You three get along as well as ever! By the way, I received many questions from readers after our first interview. I'd like to have you answer a few of them. The first is: "Be honest. What are you ideal types when it comes to women?"

M: Um, th-that's… M-m-my ideal type?

Y: Miroku, you really need to stop blushing, getting teary-eyed, and throwing off pheromones subconsciously.

S: Hey, are you okay? Miroku, you made the interviewer's nose bleed…

(As I hold a tissue to my nose...) Sorry about that! Now that you've had some time to think, please tell me about your ideal woman!

M: Um… I like women who give their all no matter what they're doing!

Y: I like women who are cool and collected in public, but ease up when we're alone.

S: My ideal type, huh? Let's see… I think I like women with claws and some bite to them.

M: Let's ignore Yoichi's glare… Shiju, I seriously don't get you.

Y: There's no need to ignore me. (Dark chuckle)

S: Why? Isn't that kind of woman cute? Plus it doesn't actually hurt when they bite.

M: No! If you do anything that would lead to you getting bitten, I'll sic the police on you!

It seems Shiju has some strange fetishes…

S: It's not a fetish!

Moving on to the next question: "If you all were to turn into animals, what animals would you be?"

M: Shiju would definitely be a lion.

Y: Yeah, the kind who's not very good at hunting and… other things.

S: What other things? Just what are you trying to imply?! Miroku would definitely be a huge dog.

Y: Like a Golden Retriever?

M: Awww, I want to be something cooler, like a Siberian Husky!

S: That would never happen. (Deadpan)

Y: Heh. By the way, what kind of animal would I be?

S: There's only one possibility, isn't there?

M: What do you mean?

S: A demon, of course. One of the strongest ones possible.

M: You mean the super strong kind that appears in light novels and looks like a dragon?

S: Yeah, that's the kind. The black ones.

Y: Shiju, I'm docking your salary.

S: Why just me?!

Since Yoichi has started to use his authority as CEO, let's move on to the next question: "What do you do on your days off?"

M: I watch late-night anime that I recorded or read manga or novels at my favorite café. I especially like light novels and read a lot of them.

Y: I want to say that I do muscle training, but since Shiju told me not to, I've started going to see movies and plays. Although it's mostly for work.

S: I get dead drunk.

M: Whoa, that's the worst ossan stereotype you could have…

Y: Don't worry, Miroku. He says that, but Shiju is actually getting voice training.

S: Tch. How did you know about that, Ossan?!

Shiju is surprisingly hard-working. Is this what they call gap-moe? My heart is starting to race! Let's move on. Next up: "What is something you don't like or are not good at?"

M: I don't like spicy food, and I'm bad at pretty much every sport.

Y: You seem like the type who can do anything once you get used to it, though.

S: I can't handle things that are too sweet. And I'm not good with small details or doing things a little at a time.

Y: Even though you're serious and a hard worker?

S: I-I'm not that serious…

M: No need to blush, Shiju!

S: I'm not blushing! By the way, Ossan… Is there anything you're not good at?

M: I can't imagine Yoichi being bad at anything…

Y: There are some things. I wouldn't say I'm not good at them, but that I'm weak against them. Like our manager…

M: Yeah, our manager is pretty strong.

S: Ah, I feel the same way. I can't say no to our manager.

I see. All three of you find it hard to go against your talented manager. To wrap things up, please talk about MiYoShi's future.

M: I want to put out more songs and perform live at a huge venue one day!

Y: Yeah. I'd like to try going on a nationwide tour.

S: What about going overseas?

M: My English isn't very good…

Y: That's a surprise. Sometimes you pull the most amazing English lines out of thin air.

M: Urk, please forget about that…

S: I'll be your interpreter, so there's no need to worry.

M: No thanks, Shiju.

Y: Don't worry. I'll interpret for the entire group.

M: Thank you, Yoichi!

S: Why not me?!

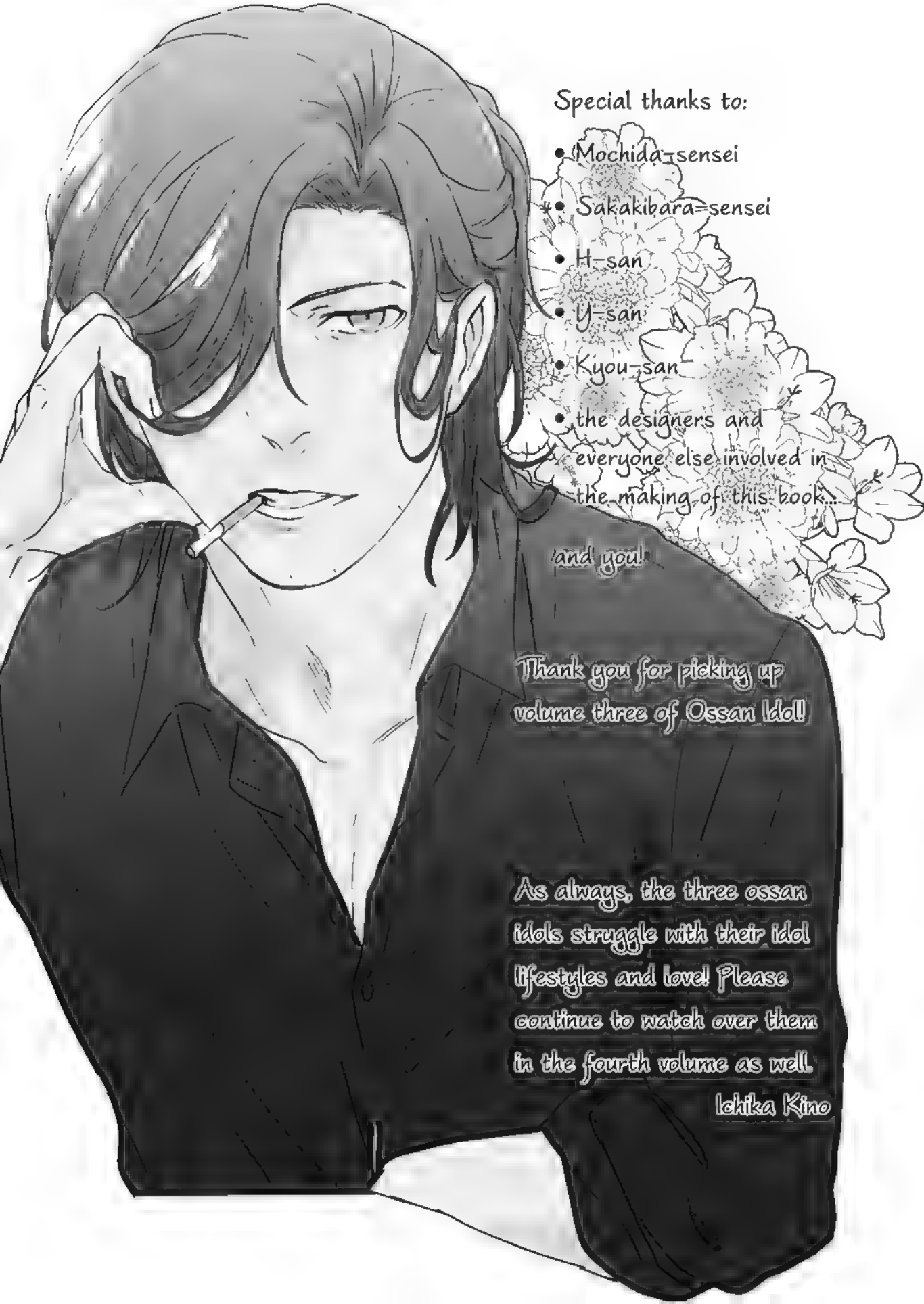
Y: Maybe because of the way you act. Is that enough to conclude the interview?

Yes, that's fine. That is all from the super close members of the idol group MiYoShi! Thank you again for today.

MiYoShi: Thank you!

END

Ossan Idol 3
Congratulations on making it to volume 3! ✔



Special thanks to:

- Mochida-sensei
- Sakakibara-sensei
- H-san
- Y-san
- Kyou-san
- the designers and everyone else involved in the making of this book...

and you!

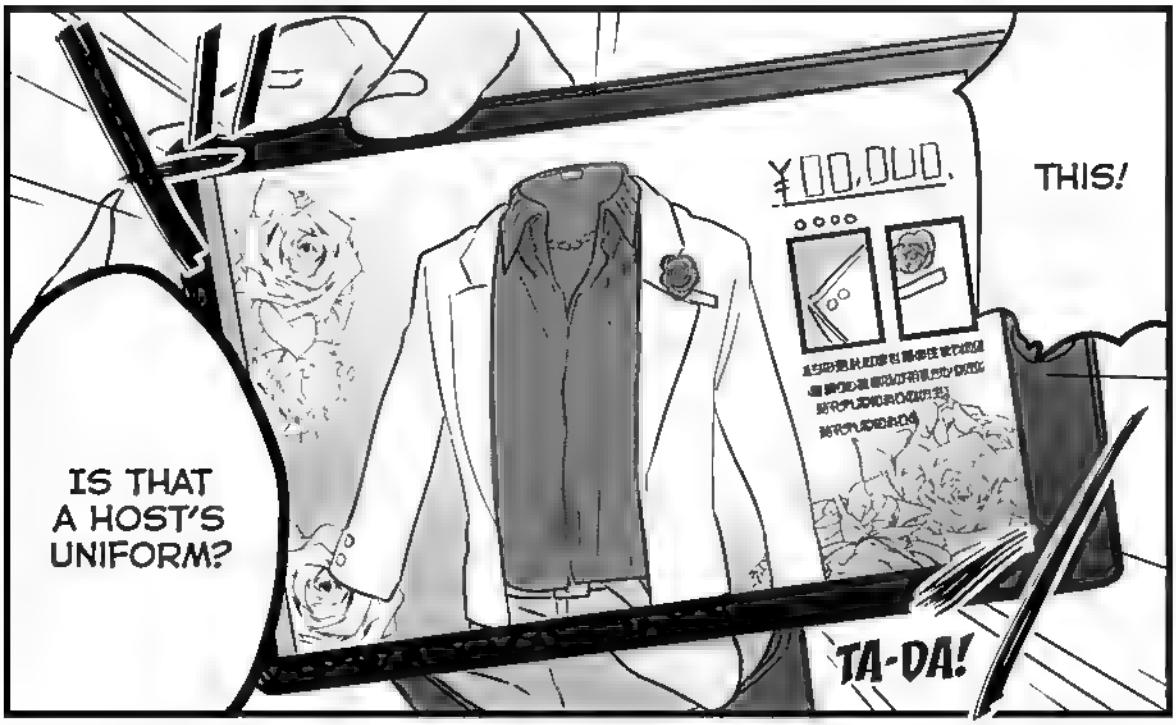
Thank you for picking up volume three of Ossan Idol!

As always, the three ossan idols struggle with their idol lifestyles and love! Please continue to watch over them in the fourth volume as well.

Ichika Kino

Extra Illustrations - Let's Decide on the Cover! ③

BUT THE GROUP MEMBERS HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN A VICIOUS, BLOODY BATTLE TO DECIDE THEIR COSTUMES FOR IT.
FWAP
WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME...
MIYOSHI WILL BE PHOTO-GRAPHED FOR THE COVER OF A MAGAZINE...
I'LL TEACH YOU TWO WHAT REAL IDOLS WEAR.
SO...
MY COSTUME IDEA IS...
RAISE!!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT FROM YOU TWO.
WE MAY BE OSSANS, BUT WE'RE STILL IDOLS.
PLEASE TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY.
YOU SAY THAT, BUT YOUR IDEA WILL PROBABLY BE JUST AS EXTREME.


IS THAT A HOST'S UNIFORM?
¥00,000.
THIS!
TA-DA!

TREMBLE
UM... THE COSTUMES HAVE ALREADY BEEN DECIDED.
THE PHOTO SHOOT ENDED WITH-OUT ANY OTHER ISSUES.
TREMBLE
...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YOU KNEW IT?
I KNEW IT! SEE? I KNEW IT!
IT'S A THOUSAND TIMES BETTER THAN YOUR GUYS' IDEAS!
FUMI, WHICH COSTUME SHOULD WE USE FOR THE MAGAZINE COVER?!
SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO LET OUR MANAGER DECIDE!
TURN

OSSAN
IDOL

LAUGHING UNDER THE CLOUDS, VOLUME 1

KarakaraKemuri

FANTASY

Under the curse of Orochi, the great demon serpent reborn every 300 years, Japan has been shrouded in clouds for as long as anyone can remember... The era of the samurai is at an end, and carrying swords has been outlawed. To combat the rising crime rates, an inescapable prison was built in the middle of Lake Biwa. When brothers Tenka, Soramaru and Chutaro Kumo are hired to capture and transport offenders to their final lodgings in this prison, they unexpectedly find themselves faced with a greater destiny than any of them could have imagined.

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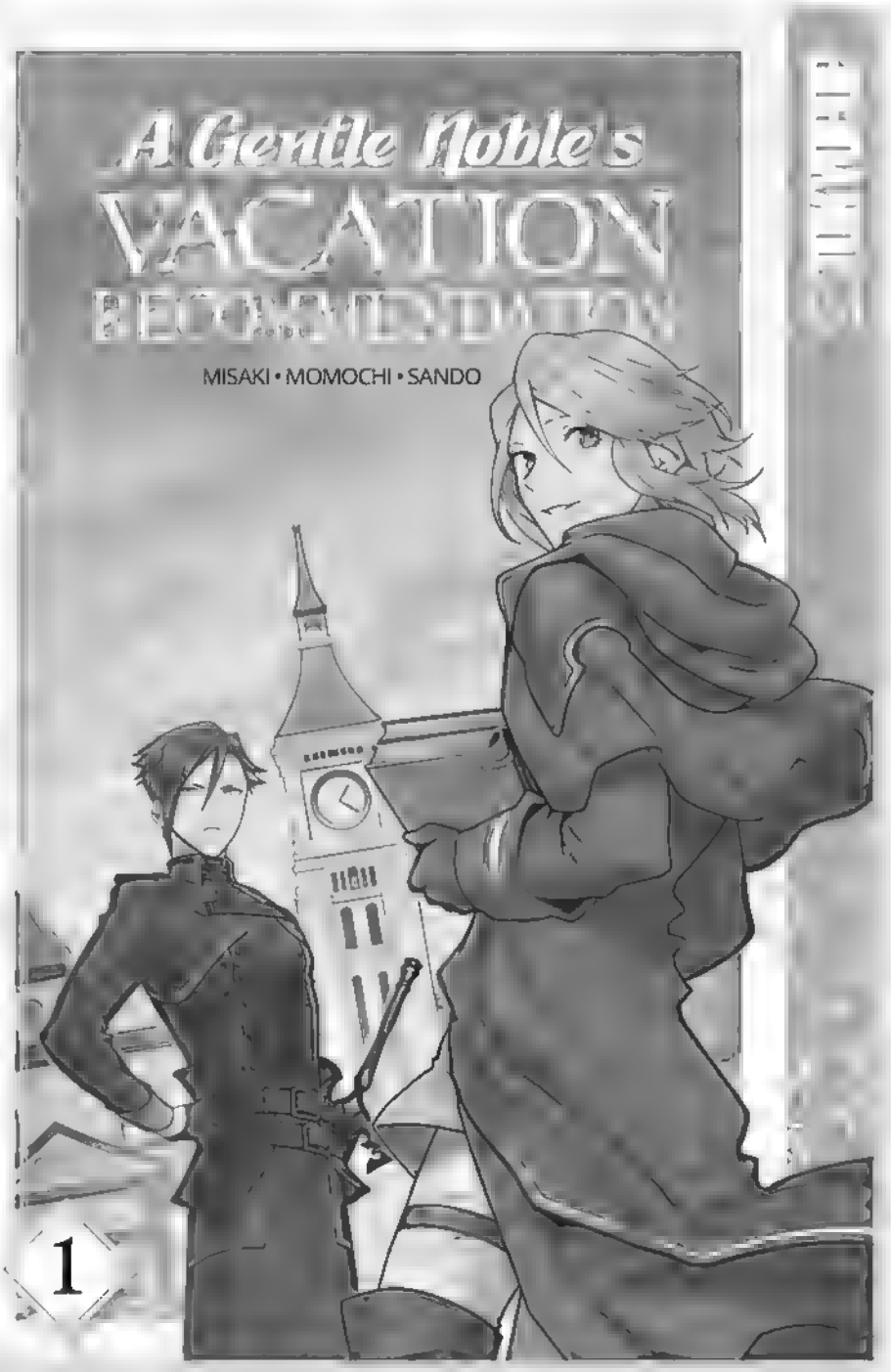
A GENTLE NOBLE'S VACATION RECOMMENDATION, VOLUME 1

Misaki, Momochi & Sando



FANTASY

When Lizel mysteriously finds himself in a city that bears odd similarities to his own but clearly isn't, he quickly comes to terms with the unlikely truth: this is an entirely different world. Even so, laid-back Lizel isn't the type to panic. He immediately sets out to learn more about this strange place, and to help him do so, hires a seasoned adventurer named Gil as his tour guide and protector. Until he's able to find a way home, Lizel figures this is a perfect opportunity to explore a new way of life adventuring as part of a guild. After all, he's sure he'll go home eventually... might as well enjoy the otherworldly vacation for now!

TOKYOPOP

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STILL SICK, VOLUME 1

Akashi

♀LOVE-x-LOVE♀

Makoto Shimizu is just an ordinary office worker, blending in seamlessly with her colleagues on the job... That is, until her coworker Akane Maekawa discovers her well-hidden secret: in her spare time, she draws and sells girls' love comics! Akane is the last person Makoto would think of as a nerd, but as the two grow closer, it starts to seem like Akane may have a secret of her own...

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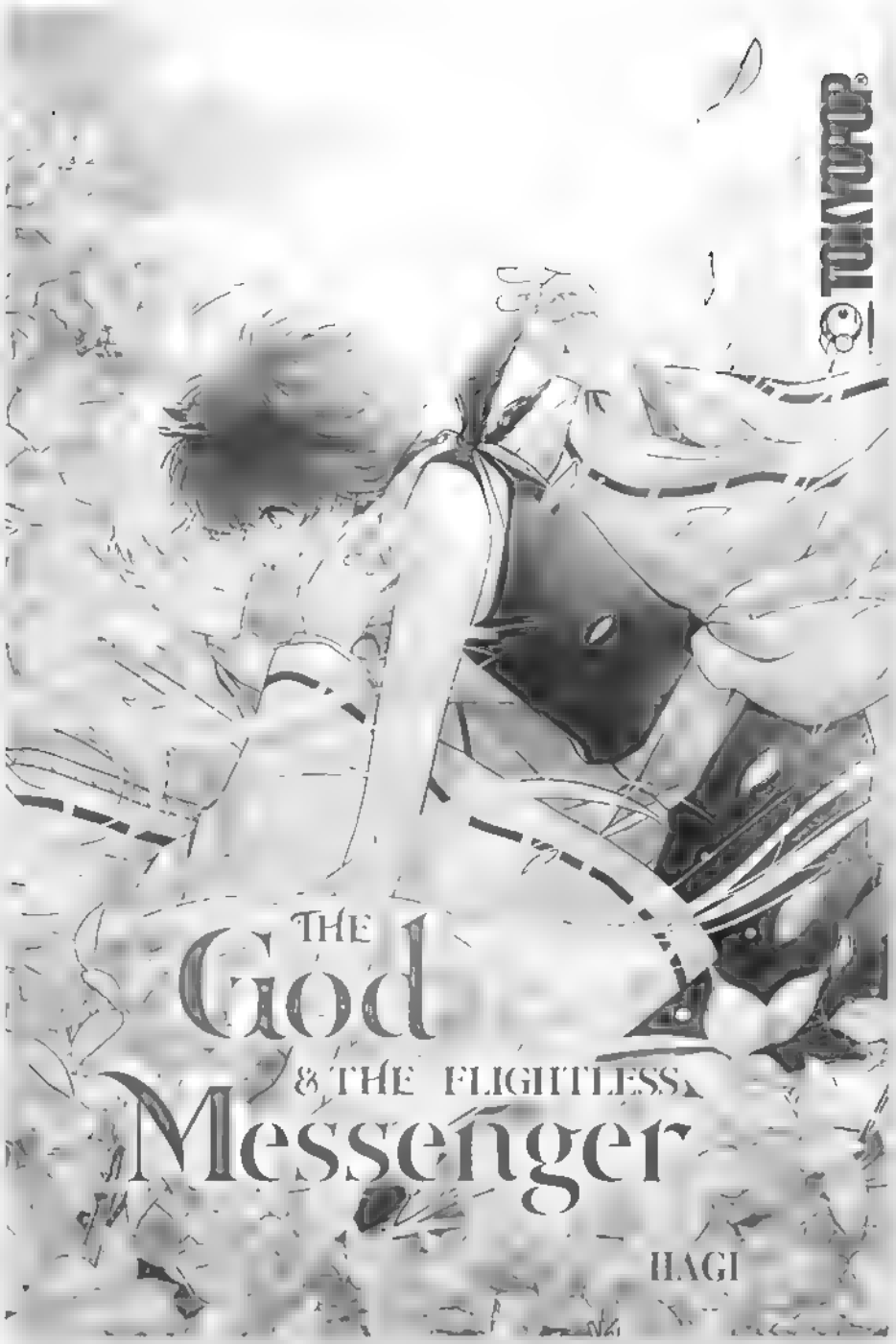
TOKYOPOP

THE GOD AND THE FLIGHTLESS MESSENGER

Hagi



LOVE-x-LOVE

"My lord, were you the one who stayed by my side?"
Shin is a messenger to the gods, but he's always been alone because of his tiny wings. And when he's finally assigned a god to serve, it turns out to be... a huge ball of fluff?! Stranger still, he feels an odd, nostalgic connection with the funny-looking god.
This is not the story of how a shape-shifting god and an earnest messenger with a short temper meet, but of how they find each other again.

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PARHAM ITAN: TALES FROM BEYOND, VOLUME 1

Kaili Sorano

SUPERNATURAL

Yamagishi and Sendo are schoolmates, but that's about all they have in common: one is a down-to-earth guy in the boxing club, while the other is a brainy, bookish conspiracy nut. But when they stumble across something weird and inexplicable after class one evening, it seems they'll have to set their differences aside in order to uncover the truth behind the mysterious creatures and strange figure prowling the school grounds.

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HANGER, VOLUME 1

Hirotaka Kisaragi

LOVE-x-LOVE

TOKYOPOP

In a futuristic Neo-Tokyo, crime is rising rapidly in the wake of a new generation of super-drugs capable of enhancing the user's physical and mental abilities. Hajime Tsukomo is a new recruit on a federal task force trained to go after these powered-up criminals. Now he must team up with Zeroichi, a so-called Hanger looking to reduce his own jail sentence in exchange for helping to take down these chemically-boosted bad guys. This is volume 1 of the series.

© 2015 Kisaragi Hirotaka, Gentosha Comics

BANG DREAM! GIRLS BAND PARTY! ROSELIA STAGE, VOLUME 1

Dr pepperco

IDOL

After her father's dreams of making it big in the music industry crumble beneath the strain of trying to appease both his managers and his fans, singer Yukina Minato is determined to make him proud by forming the "perfect band" of her own. But first, she'll have to find all the right members. They'll need unparalleled skill, passion and drive if they're going to succeed as a J-rock band in such a crowded scene! Future World Fes is the biggest music event of the year, a world-famous spectacular that showcases only the best of the best. Do five high school girls have what it takes to rock their competition and secure a spot on the main stage?

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BANG DREAM! GIRLS BAND PARTY! ROSELIA STAGE, VOLUME 2

Dr pepperco

IDOL

What are the bonds that form a real band?
As the contest to perform at Future World Fes draws near, pressure mounts from all sides for the members of Roselia — the rigorous practice they need to do every day to stay sharp, family tensions running high, and on top of everything else, a shocking development for Yukina
When a professional record label approaches her to sign a solo deal, Yukina finds herself facing an impossibly heavy choice. Should she take the shortest path to achieving her dreams, even if it means leaving her band members in the dust? Or should she risk it all, staking her future on the ragtag group of amateur musicians she might actually be willing to call her friends?

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DON'T CALL ME DIRTY

Gorou Kanbe

LOVE-x-LOVE

After some time attempting a long-distance relationship, Shouji is crestfallen when he finds out his crush isn't gay. Having struggled with his sexuality for years, he tries to distract himself from the rejection, in part by helping out at the neighboring sweets shop — but when a young homeless man called Hama shows up at the store, Shouji finds himself curious to learn more about him. Attempting to make their way in a society that labels each of them as 'outcasts' and 'dirty,' the two men grow closer. Together, they begin to find they have more in common than either of them could have anticipated.

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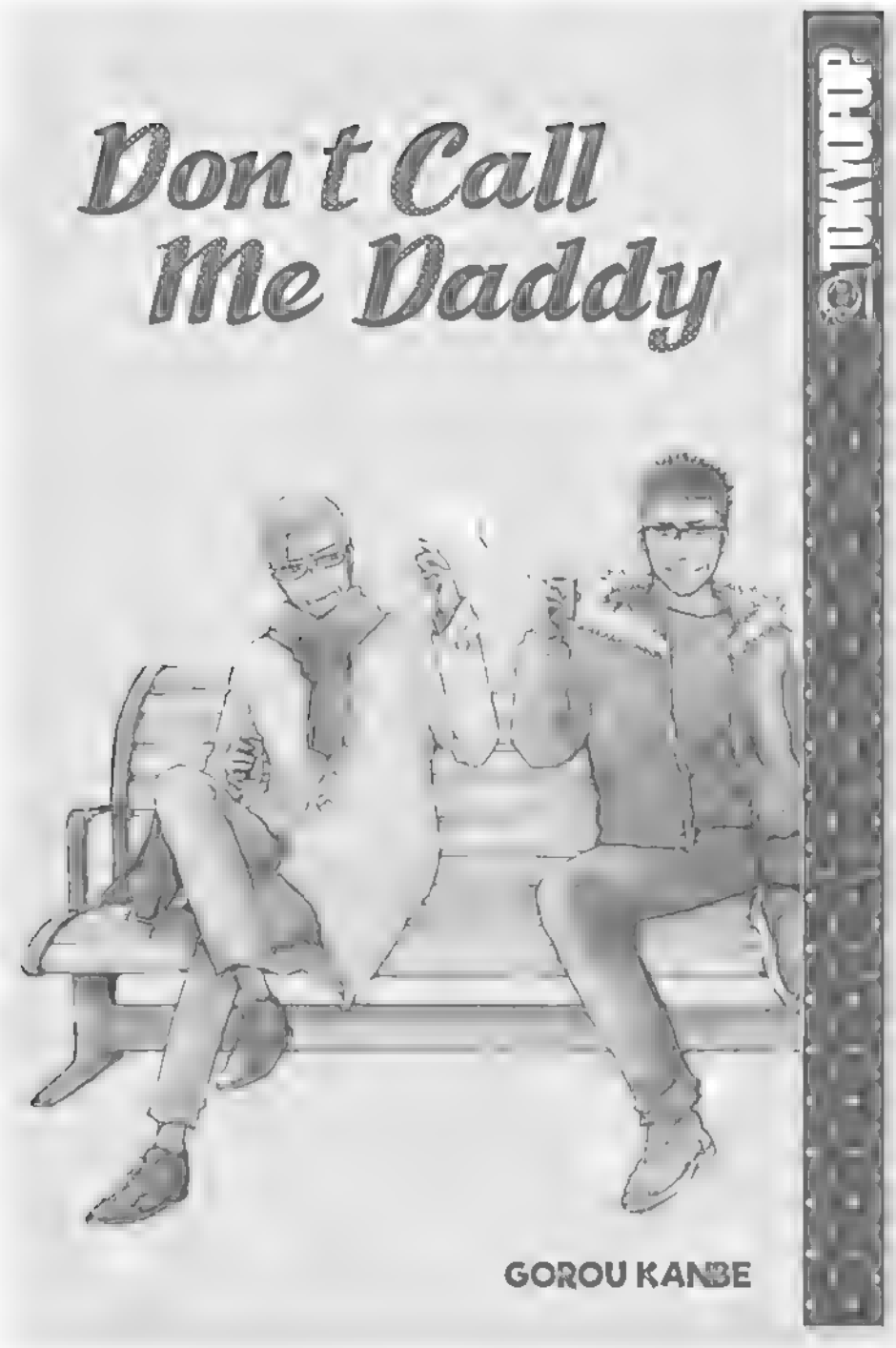
DON'T CALL ME DADDY

Gorou Kanbe



LOVE-x-LOVE

Long before the events of Don't Call Me Dirty, Hanao Kaji and Ryuuji Mita were close friends... When Ryuuji is left to raise his son Shouji as a single father, Hanao steps up to help him out. At first, their family life is happy and content, but Hanao's true feelings for Ryuuji become more and more difficult for him to ignore. The pressure of staying closeted eventually becomes too much to bear; Hanao leaves, choosing to run from his feelings and his fears of somehow "messing up" Shouji's life when he starts getting teased at school for having two dads. Years later, when he comes home to care for his aging father and ends up advising Shouji on his blossoming relationship with Hama, Hanao realizes it's time to face his own past... and his future.

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REPLAY

Saki Tsukahara

LOVE-x-LOVE MATURE 18+

Yuta and Ritsu have been playing baseball together since they were children, but after being defeated in a local tournament over the summer, they must retire from the high school team to study for university entrance exams. Still, Yuta finds himself unable to give up his lingering attachment to baseball. The one person who can truly understand him is Ritsu, who has been acting worryingly distant since they quit the team. But there's something Yuta himself doesn't understand... Does he think of Ritsu as his partner in the way that a teammate would, or is the affection between them something stronger?

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REPLAY © TSUKAHARA SAKI, GENTOSHA COMICS 2018

KOIMONOGATARI: LOVE STORIES, VOLUME 1

Tohru Tagura

LOVE-x-LOVE

When Yuiji accidentally overhears his classmate Yamato confessing to another friend that he's gay, his perspective shifts. Seeing Yamato in a new light, Yuiji does his best not to let prejudice color his view, but he still finds himself overthinking his classmates' interactions now. He especially notices the way Yamato looks at one particular boy, Yuiji's own best friend. Even though he tells himself he shouldn't get involved, Yuiji finds he just can't help it; watching Yamato's one-sided love draws him in a way he never expected. At first, it's empathy, knowing that the boy Yamato has his sights on is definitely straight and has no idea. But as his own friendship with Yamato develops and the two of them grow closer through a mutual study group, Yuiji comes to truly care about Yamato as a person, regardless of his sexuality. He only wants Yamato to be happy, and to be able to express his true self.

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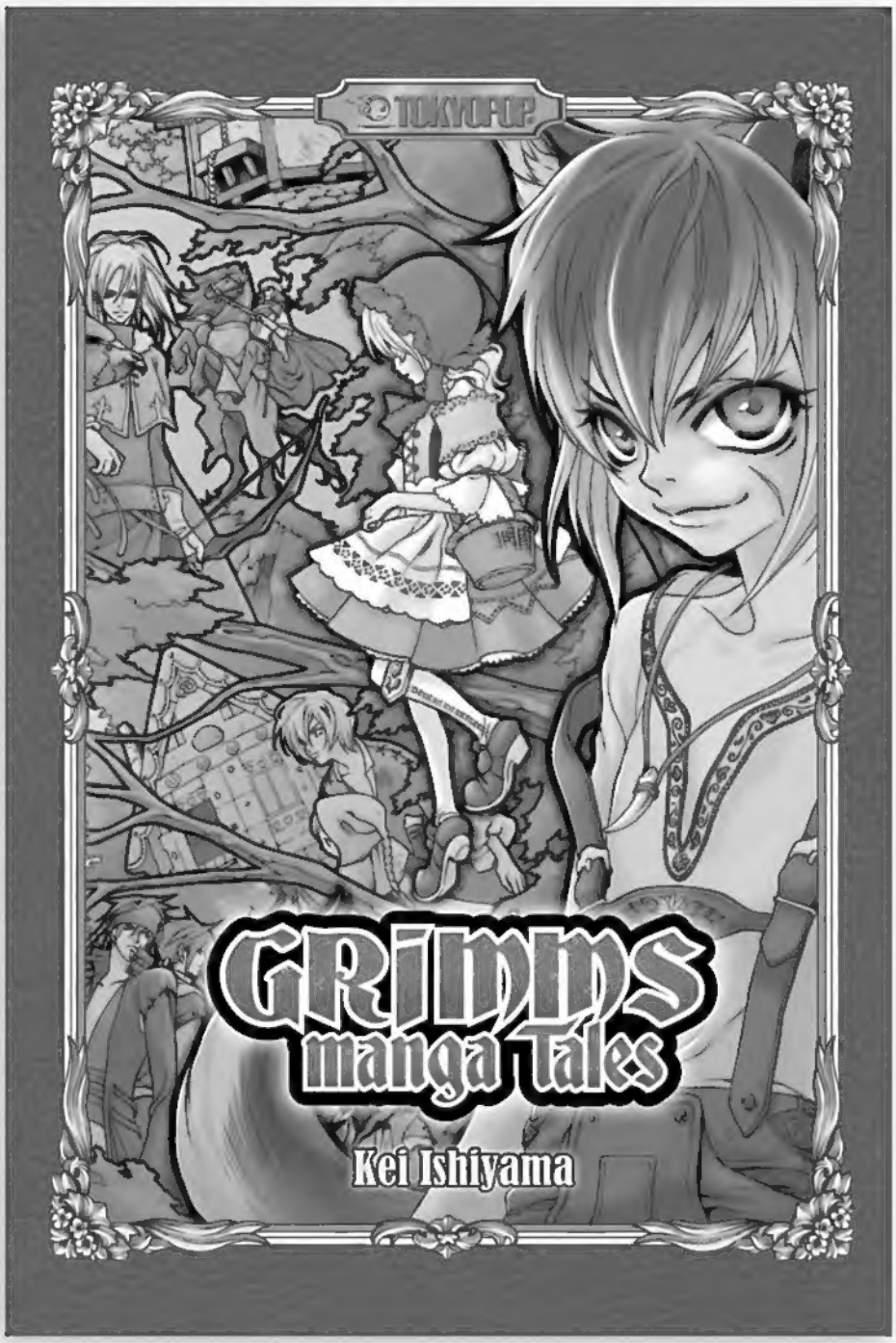
GRIMMS MANGA TALES

Kei Ishiyama



FANTASY

In this classic manga version of the Brothers Grimm fairy tales, Kei Ishiyama puts her own creative spin on these beloved stories. Featuring Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, Hansel and Gretel, The Two Brothers, The Twelve Hunters, Snow White, The Frog King, Puss in Boots, and The Singing Springing Larck, this fantasy manga retells these timeless tales,,,, but with a twist of originality!

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DARK METRO: THE ULTIMATE EDITION MANGA

Tokyo Calen & Yoshiken

HORROR

TOKYOPOP

What lies below Tokyo's subway system is more frightening than you could have ever imagined... Deep beneath Tokyo there exists a rift between this world and the next, a gateway to a world of spirits and death. Guiding those who find themselves lost in this world-between-worlds is Seiya, a mysterious young man who has the ability to tell who is destined to live and whose fate it is to pass through to the other side. But where do Seiya's powers come from? Why do people keep slipping through the cracks between worlds? And just what is lurking on the other side? In this collection of bone-chilling shorts, follow the twisted tales of death and hauntings that inhabit this horrifying underworld. This ultimate collector's edition includes the third and final volume of the original Dark Metro series, never before published in English!

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Ossani Idol! Volume 3

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Original story by Mochiko Mochida

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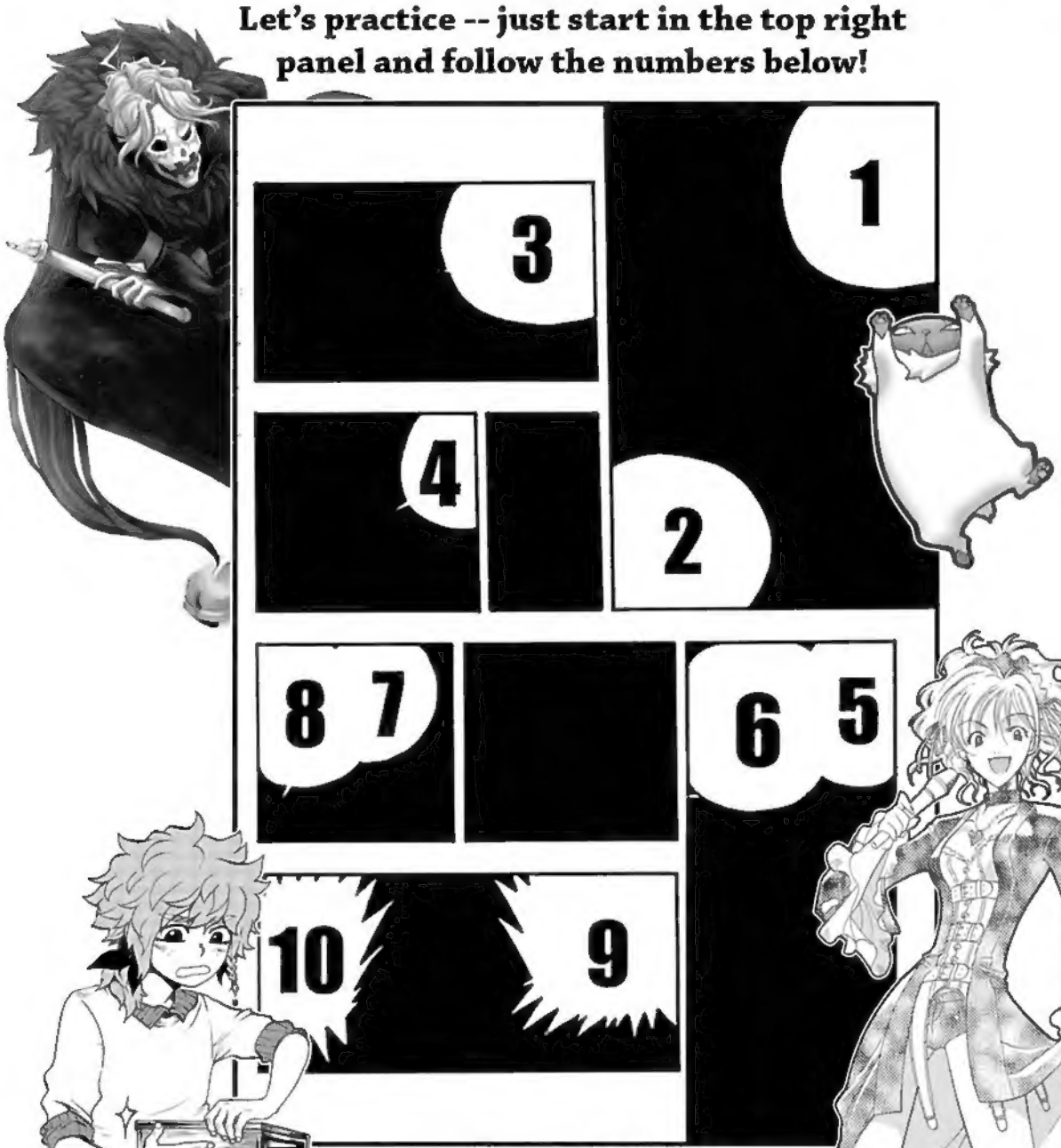
STOP

THIS IS THE BACK OF THE BOOK!

How do you read manga-style? It's simple! Let's practice -- just start in the top right panel and follow the numbers below!



Crimson from ***Kamo*** / Fairy Cat from ***Grimms Manga Tales***
Morrey from ***Goldfisch*** / Princess Ai from ***Princess Ai***